

Mortgage sale raises £40m for city council

Spending on Trident hits £300 million

Sir Iain Moncreiffe

OBITUARY

ars Hum

Hare-coursing (above) continued on the second day of the Waterloo Cup meeting near Formby, Lancashire yesterday, despite the efforts of anti-hunt campaigners. There were 20 arrests, and four people were charged with public order offences. Picture by Denis Thorpe

The line
that
others
must toe

Malcolm Dean on ethical questions and coded language

lation because of the particular character and duties of the Civil Service. Nor has it ever been thought necessary to lay down a precise code of conduct because civil servants jealously maintain their professional standards." One of the professions

the profession is strong enough to take on any considerations right up to the second

Labour joins attack on code for civil servants

pledge their loyalty simply to seek a transfer to another job

Labour investigates Asian recruitment

until the end of the inquiry, down. The black sections have probably in April, and its af- official standing in the Labo- fairs have been left in the

By Colin Brown,
Political Staff

Fears for Lords TV

The problem for the television companies is the cost. At £10,000 a day, the TV executives argue that the Lord must provide more newsroom staff to cover the debates before they can expect regular coverage.

He said: "The healing of that schism between East and West would be a grace beyond compare for the people of God. It would give an almost irresistible impetus to the dialogue between Anglicans and Roman Catholics and would generate fresh enthusiasm for the task of reuniting Western Christianity."

In an age of unbelief the evangelisation of Europe

Submarine fears over missing fishing boat

ment to it and the number of people the company would employ.

Speaker's book 'told too little'

reveals only the tip of very big iceberg."

save OU fr

'Success' report fails to save OU from cash axe

1986 and 1987, which did little to lift the major financial threat facing the university. The committee's chairman said that he was disappointed that Sir Keith appeared to have taken relatively little account of the visiting committee's views.

And he said the committee's report had gone virtually the whole way to justifying the OU's calculations on the scale of the cut-back it faces over the next five years. 1986-1987 estimates are 18.5 per cent, rising to 20.5 per cent in 1988-1989.

The OU, which has a full-time staff, has cut 10 per cent in the past 18 months. It has similar cuts from non-academic staff and from

David McKie

The wet dogs decline to bark

Politics, page 10.

Speaker granted an emergency debate. Messrs. Rippon

land. When you see a
like that lying about

Even the most ardent
Tory could not wish to
seen playing the Opposit

Glemp hears Hume call for European crusade

Four cardinals and 83 bishops from East and West Europe celebrated High Mass

in Westminster Cathedral mark the 1100th anniversary of St Methodius, a missionary monk who took Christianity to the Slavs in the 9th century. The bishop included five from the Council of England.

Cardinal Hume, president of the Council of European Bishops' Conferences, said Europe was sadly and cruelly divided by a political running through its heart.

"We live with tensions,"

hostility and confrontation. Furthermore, the church in some countries for whole generation undererding many trials and loss of gious freedom.

"Yet all the peoples Europe share a Christian past; many share a Christian faith and commitment.

Cardinal Hume commended Pope John Paul II's entrance for "decisive step in the direction of full communion" between the Orthodox and Catholic churches.

He said: "The healing of that schism between East and West would be a grace beyond compare for the people of God. It would give an almost irresistible impetus to the dialogue between Anglicans and Roman Catholics and would generate a fresh enthusiasm for the task of reuniting Western Christianity."

In an age of unbelief the evangelisation of Europe

Cardinal Hume outlined his dream of a Europe "whose peoples would be free to inherit their own history and their own identity, true to their religion, their language and their culture."

And he said the committee report had gone virtually the whole way to justifying the OU's calculations on the scale of the cut-back it faces over three years, from 1984 to 1988. It estimates the total reduction

The OU, which has 2,800 full-time staff, has cut 2,000 posts in the past 18 months. A particular number, from non-academic staff, will have to be cut.

US economy which suffered drastically from Thatcher's; but that was not the floor of the Opposition Union, not the floor of the House.

In his absence, the Government beat off yesterday's 11-hour motion by 314 to 206, a majority of 108. Of the 39 Conservatives who had signed the early day motion, 43 backed the Government, 39 didn't vote, and just one stuck to his guns and backed

ABBNEY NATIONAL BUILDING SOCIETY, ABBNEY HOUSE, BAKER STREET, LONDON NW1 6XJ

NEWS
IN BRIEFTwo die
of virus
on ward

TWO women have died in the geriatric ward at Whitley Hospital, Coventry, where there is a salmonella outbreak. Admission to the ward, where two of the five remaining patients are suspected of having caught the virus, has been halted temporarily.

A hospital spokesman said it was thought that one of the dead women had salmonella when she was admitted.

Mental patient's
case is closed

The case of mental patient X, who had the old British mental health review procedure declared unlawful under the European Convention on Human Rights, ended yesterday.

The Council of Europe's committee of ministers said it would take no further action because the Government had changed the law. The European Court said that X's compulsory indefinite detention without periodic judicial review was unlawful.

Villagers offer to
shift CND chapel

VILLAGERS living next to the proposed cruise missile base at Molesworth, Cambridgeshire, have offered to dismantle the fenced-in peace chapel and rebuild it anywhere in the country.

CND protests have focused on the half-built chapel since the army cleared the base of campers three weeks ago.

Villagers say the demonstrators visiting the chapel are congesting roads and creating a nuisance.

MPs condemn
Debendox firm

EIGHTY MPs have written to the United Kingdom head of Merrell Pharmaceuticals, deploring its refusal to include British children allegedly deformed by Debendox in the \$90 million United States settlement.

They accuse Merrell of blocking the attempts of British parents to have their case against the morning sickness drug heard in American courts and pledge parliamentary support for the Debendox Action Group.

Play scheme cuts
may hit 100,000

UP TO 100,000 children may be affected by a government decision to have the cash to finance holiday play schemes. Environment Department ministers plan to cut the number of schemes supported from 1,000 to 500 and the money from £1 million to £500,000. Ministers say that the poorest areas will still receive funds.

Prince opens
naval nerve centre

PRINCE Charles yesterday opened Nato's \$45 million computerised naval control centre SSF underground at Northwood, Middlesex.

He went down "the hole" to the headquarters of Wintex, a two-week Nato war game and saw preparations for the run-up to a simulated nuclear war.

Miners stand firm for dispute's sacked victims

A TOTAL of 709 miners have been sacked by the coal board up until February 20 with an offer of reinstatement or re-engagement to 57.

The determination of a hard core of strikers to stick by those sacked makes it extremely difficult for the union's national executive, meeting in Sheffield today, to advocate an organised return to work without a deal.

Mr Alec Doonan, the NUM agent covering the Killoch and Barony pits in Ayrshire, spoke for many when he said yesterday: "We still have 600 men on strike in Ayrshire, and many of them are key face men. Their leaders met at the strike centre today and decided they could not and would not suffer the indignity of returning to work leaving the sacked men to fend for themselves. It will not happen."

Mr Tony Bukeritis, the branch president at Whitwell colliery, North Derbyshire, said: "The argument 'if we cannot get nothing, don't sign nothing' may seem attractive but we cannot sign

lives away. In mining communities there is too much deep-rooted loyalty to friends."

The board's formal position remained yesterday that no amnesty would be available to sacked strikers. Grievances must be dealt with by the internal conciliation machinery or an industrial tribunal and the NCB chairman, Mr Ian MacGregor, has said that an amnesty would be granted over his dead body.

At the same time he and his colleagues are aware that the future of the 700 miners represents a powerful bargaining lever and it is possible that some concession may be forthcoming, especially for those sacked for non-violent offences. In return, the board would seek a formal agreement from the NUM marking the end of the strike including an acceptance of management's right to close pits.

The NCB said yesterday dismissals were a matter for area managements and fell into four categories of theft on board property; vandalism; assaults on employees;

and breaches of the mines and quarries acts.

The union criticises the inconsistency of policy between areas and pits. In some cases miners are sacked for stealing coal while elsewhere they are dismissed only for criminal damage. Also areas vary in whether they sack strikers before or after a court conviction is made.

Mr Dave Windle, Branch

In some cases the men have been simply sacked.

Anger runs strongest in Scotland, where 130 miners had been sacked up to the end of January. These include Mr David Hamilton, the Monktonhall pit delegate to the Scottish NUM and chairman of the Midlothian strike committee, Mr David Costello, the vice-chairman, Mr Doug Murdoch, the area

union is particularly concerned over the case of four lodge officials at St John's colliery in Maesteg, dismissed for allegedly intimidating a working miner. The men claim they are victims of a "set-up."

The president of the region's area miners' union, Mr Emyl Williams, has met Mr Philip Weekes, the board's area director to protest.

had come into possession of information "that leads me to believe that you have been guilty of gross industrial misconduct namely, that you have been involved in the intimidation of a workman."

Ten days later the men were sacked. Mr Isaac insists that they merely tried to persuade the miner morally that he should remain on strike. The sackings were an attempt to discourage officials from approaching any miner returning to work with arguments for why they should rejoin the strike, he said.

In Kent 29 miners were sacked in the summer over an occupation at Betteshanger pit. According to Mr Terry Harrison, one of the NUM officials involved, nearly 150 members took part and no damage was caused. Among those dismissed were eight branch officials. A total of 46 miners have been sacked in the coalfield and failure to reinstate would be a major rupture in the board's industrial relations practice, Mr Harrison said.

In North Derbyshire, 120

men have been sacked, but significantly, 30 have been reinstated after they agreed to return to work, suggesting lenience towards those committing trivial offences.

The area union is particularly concerned over the sacking of a Whitwell branch official Mr Bukeritis and five colleagues over an occupation of pit head gear in the summer. Although graffiti was daubed no damage was caused. Together, the men had 72 years' service to the industry and no blemish on their work record.

Mr Bukeritis complains that the NCB has not sacked working miners who smashed the windows on the pickets' caravans.

In the past month alone the number of sackings has increased by 100 with a further 2,456 cases arising from the dispute still to be tried in the courts in England and Wales. Although many of these offences will not have been committed by miners and many will not in the board's view, warrant sackings, the fact remains that many more miners still face the prospect of dismissal.

Patrick Wintour reports on rank and file demands to secure a national agreement reinstating men, dismissed while on strike

President at Yorkshire Main pit said: "We have had 14 miners sacked so far at the pit. We have been one of the most active pits with 300 regular pickets out of a pit of 1,400. They have used sackings as a form of psychological warfare."

In some cases men have been sacked and told if they come back to work their sackings will be dropped. In another 60 cases, the men caught coal-picking have been told they will be disciplined when they get back

surer, Mr Jack Aitchison, the Bliston Glen branch treasurer, and Mr Alec Bennett, the chairman of Monktonhall NUM.

In total, eight of the 13 members of the Midlothian strike committee have been sacked for picket line offences. Other prominent victims include the NUM delegate from Frances colliery, Mr John Mitchell, and the delegate from Castlehill, Mr John McEneaney.

In South Wales, 37 miners have been sacked and the

'Sweatshop' report says firms providing adequate conditions

Textile inquiry 'steered clear of junk spots'

By Sarah Boseley

A government inquiry which found what most textile factories were within the law was accused yesterday of avoiding the "junk spots."

Mr Peter Bottomley, the junior employment minister, said yesterday: "The reports show that most of the employers have adequate health and safety standards and are paying at least the legal minimum wage laid down by the wages council."

The inquiry into conditions in small textile firms in east London, Leicester and the West Midlands was set up after a fire in the Mile End Road which killed five women in 1983. The factory was not registered, and had never been inspected. The inquiry was commissioned by the Health and Safety Executive and the

pay was checked in 361 firms, the survey showed that 258 were paid below the wages council minimum of 53p for a 39-hour week. The inspectors said that some firms would have changed their rate of pay after their first and warning visit. They put the probable percentage of those below the minimum at between 7.7 and 11.5 per cent. Workers were paid between 10p and 30p per hour under the minimum. Total arrears due were assessed at £18,883.

The factory inspectors, who looked at 100 clothing factories in each of the three areas, found that 78 per cent in east London, 68 per cent in Leicester and 45 per cent in the West Midlands, had not registered the premises and had therefore never been inspected.

Mr Bottomley said he wanted to get the message across that health and safety was an advantage and not a burden. The inspectors spent 95 per cent of their time giving helpful advice to businesses, he said.

Two prosecutions had taken place in Leicester as a result of the investigations. Sixteen improvement notices had been issued. Inspectors wanted factories to comply with the law, preferably through persuasion. Many offences were committed through ignorance.

Mr Bottomley said that faulty electrical equipment was the most common problem and sanitation was not of a high standard. Fire safety fears were voiced in only one case. "The garment workers' union, which has 77,000 members in an industry of about 200,000 people, was unhappy with the report."

Mr Smith said: "We will be writing to the minister to ask him to have a meeting. The inspectors had seen nothing of the 'junk spots' where textile companies were based in premises which had never before been used for that purpose and were often totally unsuitable."



Peter Bottomley — advice bringing changes



A small Leicester firm — the inquiry found most were within the law on health and safety and wages. Picture by Kenneth Sanders

Elderly who cannot speak English most exploited

ONE OF THE Leicester workshops is approached by an inconspicuous door in what looks like a huge, windowless warehouse wall.

There is a small wooden office on the first floor, where the Asian owner and his wife do their paper work. Through that room, down a winding wooden staircase to the ground floor, is the workshop.

There is one door to the outside street, directly below the first floor door. The room is dominated by the whirling barks of green yarn on a huge knitting machine which takes up most of the floor space.

On one side the windows are barred. On the other side of the room they appear to be blocked by pieces of metal machinery.

Four Asian women stand in a sort of alcove off the main machine area, folding, stitching, cutting and packing the finished articles, women's jumpers.

The owner says he has 19 to 20 employees, and that in summer those employed in knitting work a shift through the night, but he would not say what wages he pays.

Mr Alec Kishy, the local secretary of the National Union of Hosiery and Knitwear Workers, said that most "sweat shop" workers were women who accepted poverty-line wages because they can get nothing else.

We're talking about older Asians who cannot speak the language and that debars them from getting another job.

CEGB attacks 'errors' in cancer risk claims

By Roger Milne

The Central Electricity Generating Board yesterday attacked "remarkable errors" in claims by objectors to the Sizewell B project concerning the risk of developing cancer from the operations of nuclear plants.

Mr George Bartlett, for the board, criticised evidence produced by witnesses for the Stop Sizewell B Association, the East Anglian-based organisation fighting the board's plan to build a second nuclear power station on the Suffolk coast.

He told the public inquiry at Snape Matting that the association's expert witnesses had made remarkable errors in their interpretation of statistics.

They also supported obscure theories, drew misconceived conclusions, produced suspect risk estimates and challenged existing internationally agreed safe guidelines with flawed arguments, he said.

Mr Bartlett accused Professor Robert Blacksmith of Dublin University, a key association witness, of developing a wholly spurious theory about "clusters" of cancer cases. "It was fundamentally flawed," he claimed.

Among the witnesses attacked by the board was Dr. Bertell, a Canadian nun who is a world expert on the effects of low-level radiation, and Dr. Alice Stewart who advises the Transport and General Workers' Union on work-

ers' claims over disorders caused by radiation.

Mr Bartlett rejected the association's claim that the cluster of leukaemia cases reported among people living around Leiston, Suffolk, and among workers at the nearby Sizewell A magnox nuclear station was statistically significant.

He also contradicted Dr. Michael Bush, the district's medical officer for East Suffolk health authority, who told the inquiry that the number of local cancer cases suggested a proneness to leukaemia in the population of the Leiston area.

Mr Bartlett told the inquiry that the board's evidence showed that "it cannot be concluded that there is any special susceptibility to leukaemia in the population of the Sizewell area."

The inquiry heard yesterday that nearly £4 million had been paid in out of court insurance settlements for injuries after the 1979 accident at the Three Mile Island pressurised water reactor in the United States.

The board accused the mayor of Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, the city nearest the site, of misleading the inquiry over the extent of community and individual health problems after the accident.

The mayor, Mr. Stephen Reed, gave evidence earlier at the inquiry on behalf of parish councils near the Sizewell site who are opposing the board's plan to build a pressurised water reactor there. The inquiry continues.

Damages paid for sex libel

A NEWSPAPER which suggested that the actress, singer and dancer, Sharon Lee-Hill, got her part in the musical Cats, through giving sexual favours to its director, Trevor Nunn, agreed yesterday to pay "substantial" undisclosed damages to each of them.

Miss Lee-Hill, who recently appeared in the musical, Bloude, at the Aldwych, and Mr Nunn, chief executive and joint artistic director of the Royal Shakespeare Company, had sued Associated Newspapers, publishers of the Daily Mail, its editor, Sir David English, and the journalist, William Davies.

Miss Lee-Hill's counsel Mr Thomas Shields, told Mr Justice Simon Brown in the High Court in London: "her present relationship with Mr Nunn, referred to in the article, began many months before the first article in the Daily Mail appeared in April, 1984."

The Daily Mail article, in April, 1984, was headed "Focus on the job so many women dream about" and "Secrets of being a Lloyd Webber girl."

Mr Richard Sampson, for the defendants, said they now recognised that the allegations made against Miss Lee-Hill were wholly without foundation and that her parts in Cats and Bloude were obtained solely as a result of her ability.

Mr Nunn's action his counsel, Mr Harry Eagle, said that the Daily Mail suggested that he had used his position at the Royal Shakespeare Company and as director of Andrew Lloyd Webber's productions, Cats and Starlight Express, "to require sexual favours before casting actresses and that he would be susceptible to similar persuasion in the future."

Mr Rampton apologised for the defendants' wholly unfounded suggestions and expressed their regret for any distress and embarrassment.

Mining dispute costing county £1m per week

By Tom Sharritt

The cost of policing the coal dispute in West Yorkshire is estimated at £8 million, the county's police committee heard yesterday.

A report from the Chief Constable, Mr Colin Sampson, and the director of finance, Mr Geoffrey Pollard, said the authority was spending about £250,000 a week on the dispute, although this varied according to circumstances.

The final total is not expected to be known for several months, but the authority hopes to recover £5,500,000 in grants from the Government.

In his annual report Mr Sampson told the committee that officers had been briefed on the need for tolerance, understanding and patience in policing the dispute and had been reminded of their legal responsibility to use only reasonable force.

Shields had not automatically been used when missiles were thrown unless there was risk of injury to the police. Long shields had been used for protection, and short shields by officers dispersing crowds and arresting people throwing stones.

Making arrests from the front of the picket line is generally counter-productive. The pickets in daily face-to-face confrontation with police officers have normally been local people.

The strategy has therefore been concentrated on identifying the missile-throwers and agitators, usually positioned well to the rear, for subsequent arrest in less inflammatory circumstances.

Wherever possible, a strict line policing had been done by West Yorkshire officers and in the Pontefract division, which contains most of the county's collieries, local officers had been contacted and community policing had not been used for public order duties.

During the dispute West Yorkshire police had been helped by officers from nine other forces. Between August 20 and December 31, 445 officers and 19 other people were reported injured. There had been 148 arrests.

The complaints, among the most serious in a TGWU election, are the first proven examples of irregularities during the poll. Allegations made in other areas at the time were never pressed. The two people named in the inquiry, Mr Paul Chamberlain and Mr John Swain, have denied the claims.

Seamen's blockade of NE breached

By Peter Hetherington
Northern Labour Correspondent

The seamen's blockade of power station coal shipments from North-east England was broken yesterday when four vessels left for the South-east.

Members of the National Union of Seamen, who have refused to move coal from the North-east for 11 months, agreed to lift restrictions and allow regular sailings to resume to power stations in the Thames Valley and the south coast.

Before the strike began 7 million tonnes of coal, three-quarters of the region's output, was being shipped annually from the North-east to the South-east.

The coal board said yesterday that the move by the seamen—believed to have been taken after the board claimed that 50 per cent of miners were now working—was a further indication that the strike was crumbling fast in the North-east coalfield, where 10,685 pitmen—43.4 per cent of the workforce—had now returned.

The NUS withdrew its official support for the blockade last week after Stephenson Clarke Shipping, which runs most of the colliers, obtained a High Court injunction under the 1924 Trade Union Act.

Mr Vince Allison, the North-east regional officer of the NUS, said he could not stop the sailings because the vessels were not crewed by local men.

Eighty-nine dockers at Hartlepool walked out yesterday in a dispute over the movement of coal stocks which have been on the docks for a year.

The strike also held up the unloading of 500 foreign cars. A port authority spokeswoman said it was hoped that the men would return to work today.

Fungus in Food:
Cracking the Mould

Your breakfast muesli may be mouldy: food can harbour fungi which may cause cancer.

This week's New Scientist looks at the risk and the responsibility for contaminated food.

Plus, how to get more oil out of the North Sea by setting it on fire; and fast living on the ocean floor.

Buy your own copy and be first with the news — and the jobs.

newscientist
Every Thursday

£1m fire

A fire caused more than £500,000 of damage to Surrey County Council offices in Guildford early yesterday. Arson was suspected.

ed victims
Seame
blocka
of NE
breach
ing dispute cost
y £1m per week
poll claim uph
£1m fire

What would you do if your
printer just stopped dea

. Get an Epson.

Epson has sold more computer printers and print mechanisms than the rest of the world's manufacturers put together. Because when we build printers, we pull out all the stops — literally. Please ring Teledata on 01-200 0200 for details.

EPSON

Moscow accuses the US of trying to poison Geneva talks

Angry Soviet denial of arms treaty violations

From Martin Walker in Moscow

The Soviet Government has angrily denied American charges that it has violated any of the formal agreements on arms limitations reached with the Americans and, in a powerfully-worded statement issued by the Foreign Ministry in Moscow yesterday, has accused the US Government of "long and systematic attempts to undermine the 1972 Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty."

The statement's tone bodes ominously for the next round of US-Soviet negotiations due to begin in Geneva on March 12.

"The US side is resorting to such unseemly tactics, just as the negotiations on nuclear and space weapons are about to start in Geneva, with the clear intent to poison from the outset the atmosphere surrounding those talks," the statement said.

Western diplomats considered, then, discounted, suggestions that the sharp tone of the Soviet statement might presage a Soviet walk-out from the Geneva talks. They indicated that the Russians had been embarrassed by their walk-out from the Geneva talks in 1982, and would not want to repeat it.

The statement said that the US administration had been "inventing accusations against Soviet policy to distract the attention of public opinion from the unprecedented mili-

tary programmes it is pursuing and from Washington's policy of disrupting the system of arms limitations."

It went on to specify that the US Star Wars research project, together with new developments to Minuteman-type missiles to give them an anti-ballistic missile capability, and the new radar system, were all developments in breach of the ABM treaty of 1972.

"It is a firm stand of the Soviet Union that the ABM treaty should remain valid," the statement said. "This is the premise from which it proceeds in its practical actions."

It went on to raise cruise missiles, Pershing and the sale to Britain of the Trident system as evidence that the US had broken its agreement to abide by the provisions of the unratified Salt II treaty.

"Washington can hardly fail to understand that carrying out the programme of a large-scale ABM system with space-based elements, would inevitably result in an uncontrolled arms race in every direction. It would make limitations, let alone reductions in strategic offensive arms impossible, and would dramatically heighten the risk of nuclear war," the statement said.

"Despite this, they stubbornly refuse to abandon the scheduled programmes, seeking to make them irreversible in order to deny US leaders freedom of choice for decades to come."

Split in support for space weapons

From Michael White in Washington

As President Reagan orchestrated a campaign to win united support for his defence programmes on the eve of the Geneva arms control talks, fresh evidence emerged of divisions over the technical feasibility of the Star Wars concept.

Though the report of the congressional office of technology Assessment (OTA) on Star Wars is not due to be published until May, a strongly pro-Star Wars general has resigned from its advisory panel, it was revealed yesterday, claiming that the report is being cooked to damage his case in the eyes of congressmen who hold the purse strings over what is potentially a \$70 billion programme.

General Daniel Graham, who advocates a bold exploitation of America's technological edge in space for military advantage, complained that the draft report was being concocted "to create an a priori case against SDI"—the Strategic Defensive Initiative, which envisages a foolproof non-nuclear shield against incoming missiles.

In particular, the general drummed up Republican support to protest against a passage which noted—as America's friends and foes have done—that theoretically Star Wars could be so effective as to allow Washington "credibly to threaten the use of offensive nuclear weapons, should it choose."

In reality this has long been NATO doctrine in the face of an overwhelming Warsaw Pact onslaught in Europe. "First use, but not 'first strike' in the jargon of the Pentagon."



The Pope with the Soviet Foreign Minister, Mr Andrei Gromyko, at the Vatican yesterday

Italy 'must help brake' arms race

From George Armstrong in Rome

The Soviet Foreign Minister, Mr Andrei Gromyko, yesterday ended a three-day official visit to Rome which included an audience with the Pope.

He later told the Italian Foreign Minister, Mr Giulio Andreotti, that Italy's acceptance of a missile base on Sicily was due to "promoters of all kinds, and the major part of them are from outside the Italian frontiers."

In the armaments race, Mr Gromyko said, the world is literally holding its breath. Italy was due to "promote" and Italy should play its role in braking that race. "We

hold no illusions. The negotiations will be difficult and long. If there are people who, like sleep walkers, are treading on the edge of the abyss without being aware of it, the people must defend themselves from such persons because they can drag all humanity to the precipice," he said.

In his talks with the Prime Minister, Mr Bettino Craxi, Mr Gromyko was told that the trade balance between the two countries, which is now about \$1,680 million in the red for Italy, must be corrected by increased exports from Italy to Moscow.

The main items bought by

Italy from Moscow are petrol and natural gas. Moscow apparently is still pushing Rome for having deliberately hesitated for a long time on taking part in the gas pipeline through which the Soviet Union is supplying other European countries.

Mr Gromyko met the Pope for the second time, their first encounter having been a few months after the Pope was elected. Last August the Pope announced that the Soviet Union had refused him, and his Secretary of State, visas to go to Lithuania for a commemorative celebration for St Casimir. The Pope said:

"It is only two or three hours flying time away," suggesting that he still held hopes of visiting the Roman Catholic community there.

Mr Gromyko was asked yesterday if a papal visit to the Soviet Union had been discussed and he said the matter had not been brought up.

Much has changed since the previous meeting, notably in the Pope's native Poland. In 1979 both men spoke in Russian without interpreters. Yesterday, Mr Gromyko brought an Italian speaking Soviet interpreter and the Pope, who spoke Italian, had his own interpreter, a Yugoslav.

Nato wants a 35-state 'hotline'

Stockholm: Nato yesterday proposed the creation of a "hotline" communications network linking the 35 countries attending the European disarmament conference, saying such a system could reduce misunderstandings about military activities.

The US Ambassador, Mr James Goodby, presented the last of six Nato working documents to the conference, which is discussing ways of reducing the risk of war breaking out in Europe by accident or miscalculation.

The document proposed the establishment of links which could be used "for communications on matters of urgency related to aggression, confidence-building and security-building measures."

"We are talking about establishing hotlines," Mr Goodby told reporters. "The novel thing about this is that the communications would be used in the implementation and verification of the previous five measures we have proposed."

Nato's other proposals focus on exchanges of military information.

Mr Goodby said the technicalities of such a system had yet to be worked out, but it would have to be open to all participants. The conference groups the US, Canada, and all European countries except Albania.

Mr Goodby said that now that Nato had elaborated on all its proposals in language suitable for a final agreement, it was time for the Warsaw Pact countries to be more specific about their attitude to the various proposals. — Reuters.

Sperm clinics hit by Swedish law

From Roland Sianbridge in Stockholm

ARTIFICIAL insemination will largely cease in Sweden tomorrow as a new law takes effect giving children the right to know who is their biological father.

Almost all sperm donors will cease to use the country's 11 fertility clinics from today because their anonymity can no longer be guaranteed. Most clinics will close.

Professor Kerstin Hagendahl, at Stockholm's Karolinska Hospital, says she will advise childless mothers to seek help in England, where the identity of sperm donors is secret.

For most childless couples, the costs of travel and treatment in England will be prohibitive, and doctors fear that sperm black markets will develop.

"Women wanting children will also go to singles bars and busle up strangers to get themselves pregnant. Where there is no medical supervision, there is danger of offspring inheriting genetic diseases," said one doctor.

Several Swedish women have now contacted the Danish organisation Sadeshjalpen

(Seed-Aid), a private concern that arranges contacts between childless women and donors. They meet, for example, at a large railway station where the donor hands over a capsule containing sperm, which the woman then inserts herself.

The new Swedish law, the first of its kind in the world, has been adopted by the government in the face of opposition from almost the entire medical profession.

Studies undertaken in 1980 and 1982 at Malmö Hospital, which has the country's largest fertility clinic, showed that 98 per cent of childless couples wanted the donor to remain anonymous.

Under the new law, artificial insemination has to be performed at a hospital, and doctors there may investigate whether the couple could be "suitable" parents. Previously only medical judgments were made. The social father has to agree to accept full responsibility for parenthood.

Critics of the new law point out that about 10 per cent of Swedish children are not the offspring of the man living with their mother and say that the new law is an invasion of privacy.

All losers in anthem contest

BELGRADE: Yugoslavia has rejected 761 different suggestions for a new national anthem, saying news agency said yesterday.

They were responses to a country-wide public competition for a new lyric and tune to replace the present

anthem, "Hej, Sloveni." But none of them had the right text or melody, an official panel decided.

The new anthem was wanted for celebration next November marking the 40th anniversary of the present state. — Reuters.

Kohl denies any claims on Poland

Bonn: Chancellor Helmut Kohl yesterday assured Poland that West Germany had no territorial claims against it and spoke out against members of his own party who have resorted to demands for the return of former German provinces.

In his annual State of the Nation address to the Bonn parliament, the Chancellor promised that West Germany accepted present European frontiers and would stick rigidly to all agreements it had signed with Soviet bloc states.

Dr Kohl's comments appeared to be aimed at defusing fierce criticism of West Germany from Moscow and its allies following recent statements from right-wing members of his Christian Democratic Union reviving claims to former German lands.

"We, the Federal Republic of Germany and the People's Republic of Poland, have no territorial claims on each other and will not raise any in the future," he said.

Polish families had now been living in those areas which were once part of Germany for two generations. "We will respect this fact and never question it," he added.

Leaders of refugee organisations inside the CDU have provoked angry protests from Moscow and Warsaw by repeatedly declaring that these territories should one day revert to German rule.

The Chancellor called on the West German countries to agree to a new series of meetings between Eastern and Western leaders. — Reuters.

EEC agreement on both wine and milk

From Derek Brown in Brussels

EEC farm ministers have achieved a belated but significant double breakthrough in their campaign to curb runaway spending on the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP).

They finally completed a comprehensive repair job on the Community's battered milk regime in the early hours of yesterday morning. The agreement, hailed by the Agriculture Minister, Mr Michael Jordaens, as a "glorious step towards taking the CAP back to reality," came hours after a ministerial deal to curb soaring production of surplus wine.

The milk agreement should open the way at last to full implementation of the "superlevy" system agreed on March 3 last year. The scheme involves heavy penalties for farmers who breach production quotas, but although it has significantly reduced output, only Germany so far has actually imposed the superlevy penalties.

Technical and political objections from other countries have now been answered by the package of measures agreed yesterday morning. The most important allows regions which drastically cut production to pass on their surplus quotas to those regions exceeding their output target. This should mean, for instance, that no surplus will be paid at all in the UK where most regions are comfortably within their quotas, while only Northern Ireland farmers have exceeded theirs.

Another important concession to about 3,000 British dairy producers is that their overall quotas will include direct sales to consumers as well as deliveries to wholesale

creameries. Under the original system, farmers who cut back drastically on wholesale output could still be heavily penalised for even slight infringements of the direct sale quota.

The ministerial wine deal, which took nearly 36 hours to negotiate — after months of detailed bargaining at official level — aims to drain off the Community's huge surplus of wine, now 30 million hectolitres (around 780 million gallons) each year.

The scheme will allow the EEC Commission to fix annual amounts of poor quality wine to be distilled compulsorily and cheaply into industrial alcohol. Growers will also be compensated for grubbing up vines, and in some cases for refraining from planting new ones.

The farm deals are a timely psychological and practical boost to hopes of a wider settlement of disputes holding up Spanish and Portuguese accession, and the perennial budget problem.

Foreign ministers of the Ten gathered in Brussels today for a preliminary round of talks, leading up to a marathon four-day session planned for mid-March. On the agenda are EEC accession terms, and the Community's chronic cash shortage.

The belated accession talks should be completed by the end of next month, to allow ratification by all member states' parliaments in time for the two countries to join on schedule at the start of next year. The wine deal has at least helped clarify the Community's negotiating position, but there remain profound differences over Spain, and most importantly on fishing rights.

Portugal censured by ILO

From Jill Jolliffe in Lisbon

An International Labour Organisation committee has found that Portugal's Government has breached four ILO conventions.

In a confidential 31-page report on a complaint lodged by the Inter-sindical trade union federation, the three-member committee upheld the union's claim that the Government of Dr Mario Soares had failed to prosecute employers who did not pay wages on time or who did not pay holiday pay, had failed fully to inform the ILO of labour conditions in Portugal, and had failed to carry out adequate labour inspections.

Two other Inter-sindical complaints were referred to the committee on the right of free association, which decided that they were not justified. They were lodged under ILO conventions concerning forced labour.

The ILO censure came as the Portuguese Government prepares for the final phase of negotiations on EEC entry.

The main cause of the unions' petition to the ILO was the plight of thousands of Portuguese workers whose wages are in arrears, owed by public and private companies on the verge of bankruptcy. It accused the Government of irresponsibility as the employer in the case of state-owned companies, and of failing to use existing laws to prosecute employers and protect workers' rights.

Godfather arrests 'a blow against crime'

From Jane Rosen in New York

Federal officials insisted yesterday that the latest campaign against the mafia was a "historic" operation that could cripple the guiding force behind organised crime in American cities.

The Director of the FBI, Mr William Webster, said that the "major muscle" of the Cosa Nostra "has now been brought to the bar of justice" and "we are now taking out the top players."

The US Attorney in Manhattan, Mr Rudolph Giuliani, who was in charge of the operation, described it as "a major blow" at the mafia, "probably the worst" that mafia leaders had experienced. Nine men who comprise the hierarchy of New York's five mafia crime families and who allegedly sit on the "mafia secret commission" or board of directors, face charges including conspiracy to commit murder.

While the Justice Dept and New York authorities have made a number of well-publicised attacks in mafia leaders in the past, this is the first time they have moved against the mafia commission.

According to the indictment, the commission was set up in 1931 by the five mafia families to mediate in disputes, determine areas of operation for each family, distribute millions

of dollars from various rackets, establish liaison with the Sicilian mafia, and enforce discipline among competing groups. The indictment claims that the commission regulated narcotics trafficking, loan sharking, gambling, labour racketeering, extortion, and murder.

Among six other killings, the members allegedly ordered the murder of Carmine Galento, boss of the Bonanno family, in 1979, because he defied the commission's order to restrict his drug operations to his own area.

New York State and Federal officials obtained the information used to indict the defendants from extensive telephone tapping and electronic eavesdropping. The officials gathered what they describe as "extraordinary information" from an electronic wiretap planted in a Jaguar used by leaders of the Lucchese family, and from another bug installed in the New York mansion of the Gambino family leader.

When the defendants were rounded up on Monday night, three complained of sudden chest pains or other illnesses and were admitted to hospital. Several other mafia figures who evidently expected to be arrested, also entered hospital. "This thing has inspired a lot of heart problems," the US Attorney said, "but interestingly



Two alleged mafia godfathers, "Big Paul" Castellano (top) and "Fat Tony" Salerno (above)

none of them has been fatal." After the indictment, the judge set bail of \$4 million for Paul (Big Paul) Castellano, of the Gambino family, who was allegedly the chief of the mafia commission. Mr Castellano raised the money in an hour and left the courtroom.

Glimpse of a seamy side behind the closed doors

From Alex Brummer in Washington

The hurried resignation yesterday of the Securities and Exchange Commission's top corporate investigator, Mr John Fedders, after he acknowledged that he beat his wife, provides a rare glimpse of the seamy side of Washington life.

Mr Fedders, who has been much admired for his tough work on insider trading at the SEC, which is widely regarded as the most effective investigative institution in the US Government, is one of the dozens of top officials who come to the capital for power and glory, and find their financial and personal affairs taking a nosedive.

The downfall of Mr Fedders owes much to the assiduous investigative work of the Wall Street Journal.

There is generally a reluctance here to cast the first stone when it comes to the personal side of a public figure's life. But once the Wall Street Journal, in a thorough piece of reporting, had taken off the gloves, others immediately rushed in. Conveniently Mr Fedders' marital problems came to the divorce court in Maryland just 24-hours after the Journal had laid out his other problems too: seeking to make ends meet on \$72,000 a year against his previous salary of

more than \$160,000 and a continuing investigation by the SEC into bribery at the Southern Corporation which Mr Fedders had at one time advised.

It is the wife-beating charges which have fascinated the country. In his letter of resignation Mr Fedders referred to them as being "exaggerated," noting that only "on seven occasions during 18 years of marriage" had "marital disputes between us erupted in violence."

Be that as it may, the accounts of Mr Fedders' wife abuse, alleged from the divorce court hearings, have been alarming not to mention salacious reading across Washington and the country's breakfast tables for the past few days.

Mr Fedders, who is 6ft 10in, managed over the years to inflict a series of brutal wounds on his 5ft 9in wife including breaking her eardrums with a blow to the side of the face: punching her in the eye with her glasses on and, perhaps most frightening of all, trying to throw her over the banister with the children looking on.

While President Reagan publicly railed against "horrible crimes like sexual abuse and family violence" in his State of the Union address of 1984, the White House staff were slower to react.

Managua initiative aimed at Congress

From Tony Jenkins in Managua

President Ortega has announced that he will launch a new peace initiative when he flies to Montevideo to attend the inauguration of the Uruguayan president, Mr Julio Maria Sanguinetti.

Most of the details of the new Sandinista plans are not due to be released until today, but Mr Ortega said he would be writing to the US Congress leaders inviting them to send a bipartisan commission to Nicaragua to investigate the Sandinista military structure. He said the commission would be allowed to travel "without any restrictions whatsoever, to go to the places they want in order to know the reality of the military development in Nicaragua, which is truly defensive."

In recent weeks senior members of the US Government have accused the Sandinistas of posing a "strategic threat" to the US and have appealed to Congress for \$14 million to help fund counter-revolutionary guerrillas who are trying to overthrow the Sandinista Government.

Mr Ortega has accused President Reagan of trying to "blackmail" Congress. A senior Sandinista official said the invitation to American politicians was "to prove that Reagan is lying when he calls

us Communist and totalitarian."

Mr Ortega spoke after meeting a delegation of senior American clergy led by the archbishops of New York and Chicago. The president revealed the details of the peace plan to them in confidence and said he hoped the initiative would cause "President Reagan to reflect" and to resume bilateral negotiations.

The churchmen declined to reveal the contents of the Sandinista package. However, a Bishop of Corpus Christi in Texas, said: "We were impressed with the extent and boldness of his initiative."

He said the concessions were mostly related to providing a new impetus to the Contadora regional peace negotiations. The Contadora process is currently bogged down over Costa Rican objections that Nicaragua has violated an international treaty on the rights of political refugees by arresting an army deserter who had sought asylum in the Costa Rican embassy in Managua.

Senior Western diplomats are speculating that the Sandinistas may be prepared to withdraw Cuban military advisers in return for US agreement to resume peace talks. They also believe Mr Ortega may meet the Secretary of State, Mr George Shultz, when they are in Montevideo.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Blow to pollution protesters

THE US Supreme Court yesterday expanded a government agency's power to grant exemptions from national clean water laws.

The 5-4 decision represented a serious setback for environmentalists who had sought to limit variances under standard limiting discharge of toxic water pollutants.

The ruling underscored last year's Supreme Court decision granting the federal Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) greater flexibility in administering environmental laws.

In 1978 the EPA established an exemption to clean water laws, based on whether an individual plant could cite "fundamentally different factor" than those used by the agency in setting national standards. — Reuters.

'Six murdered'

AT LEAST six Thai journalists were murdered last year because they exposed the illegal activities of local government officials and other influential people in Thai provinces, a prominent human rights lawyer, Mr Thongchai Thangsoo, said in Bangkok yesterday. In a four-page annual review, Mr Thangchai also listed the cases of five other Thai journalists killed last year. — AP.

X-ray peril

EXPOSING a human foetus to X-rays more than doubles the chance that the child will contract cancer before reaching adulthood, medical researchers said in a report published yesterday. According to the report in the New England Journal of Medicine, an unborn child "may be especially sensitive to the carcinogenic effects of ionizing radiation." — Reuters.

Torture sentence

A BELGIAN couple were sentenced to death yesterday for murdering a nine-year-old Zairean boy in their care. The couple, who lived in Belgium, were sentenced to life imprisonment. — Reuters.

Blast deaths

TWO people died yesterday when a bomb destroyed a shop in Oshakati, northern Namibia, the South African newspaper said. The blast killed a white woman and a black man and injured seven other people, a spokesman for the South African Territory Force said. — Reuters.

'Beatles' charge

THE FBI has charged a 30-year-old man with stealing a master tape containing conversations and never-released music from the Beatles. Michael Reibel, of Boca Raton, a former employee of Studio Systems Inc of Jersey City, New Jersey, was arrested at his parents' home in Boca Raton and the tape was recovered. — AP.

Border shots

YUGOSLAV guards opened fire along the frontier with Austria to stop two Europeans from illegally crossing the border, Austrian police said yesterday. The two men tried to cross into Austria at the Wurzenpass. One got through, but the other was arrested. — Reuters.

Six on trial

SIX men, including five soldiers, have gone on trial in Accra, Ghana, in secret accused of plotting against the Government. Radio Ghana said yesterday. The special public prosecutor was permitted to hold the trial in camera "on grounds of state security." — AP.

American cleared

AN American businessman, Marie McBroome, who faced a possible death sentence, was acquitted by a military tribunal in Lagos yesterday on six charges of conspiracy and attempting illegally to export crude oil from Nigeria. — AP.

Autobahn pile-up

ALMOST 300 cars piled up in two separate accidents yesterday on a fog-shrouded Rhine-Ruhr Autobahn, killing at least six people and injuring more than 70, police said in Duren, West Germany. — AP.

Snow in Arabia

SNOW has fallen in Saudi Arabia for the first time in several years, the official Saudi Press Agency reported. More than 50 centimetres fell in the Alkan area of the kingdom, east of the Gulf of Aden. — Reuters.

Rustlers halted

KENYAN security forces wiped out about 200 cattle rustlers believed to have come from Ethiopia after the marauders attacked a remote northern town, killing 10 men, women, and children. Kenyan officials said yesterday. — Reuters.

155/10/1985

ADVERTISEMENT

THE GUARDIAN Thursday February 28 1985

7

From 1st April the government plans to ban many medicines from NHS supply. If Parliament permits it, the new scheme will bring Whitehall bureaucracy trundling into every family doctor's surgery.

True, the list of medicines the government now wants doctors to prescribe for their NHS patients is not so restricted as was first proposed. But even so, many tried, trusted and well recognised preparations are threatened.

People need medicines for many reasons. The mental comfort provided by a familiar remedy is sometimes as valuable as its more direct medical effects. It is also important for safety reasons: that patients should recognise their medicines, and identify them easily. Unless they can do so there could be needless accidents, particularly among the elderly. Patient recognition helps guard against professional and personal errors in

medicine administration.

The government's plan will threaten safety and well-being. It is not just that some patients - including those older people who are exempt from NHS prescription charges - may have to go without their accustomed treatments or pay for them privately. Most of the listed medicines which the government is still prepared to allow on the NHS will not be prescribable by their brand names. So alternatives (many of which will be imported from countries where manufacturing controls are not so strict as in Britain) will be dispensed, depending on which version can be purchased most cheaply at any particular time. This means that however long a patient takes a medicine they will not reliably be able to recognise it, because of the possibility of confusing changes.

This type of compulsory substitution,

over which doctors will have no control, has a similarly lethal potential for the British drug industry. The government's scheme will result in *harm* to patients: *harm* to the principle of free doctor/patient treatment choice: *harm* to the British research based pharmaceutical industry, which is our last really successful area of high technology enterprise: and *harm* to our national economy.

Write to your MP at The House of Commons, London SW1, and ask him or her to oppose the government's April fool NHS medicines plan.

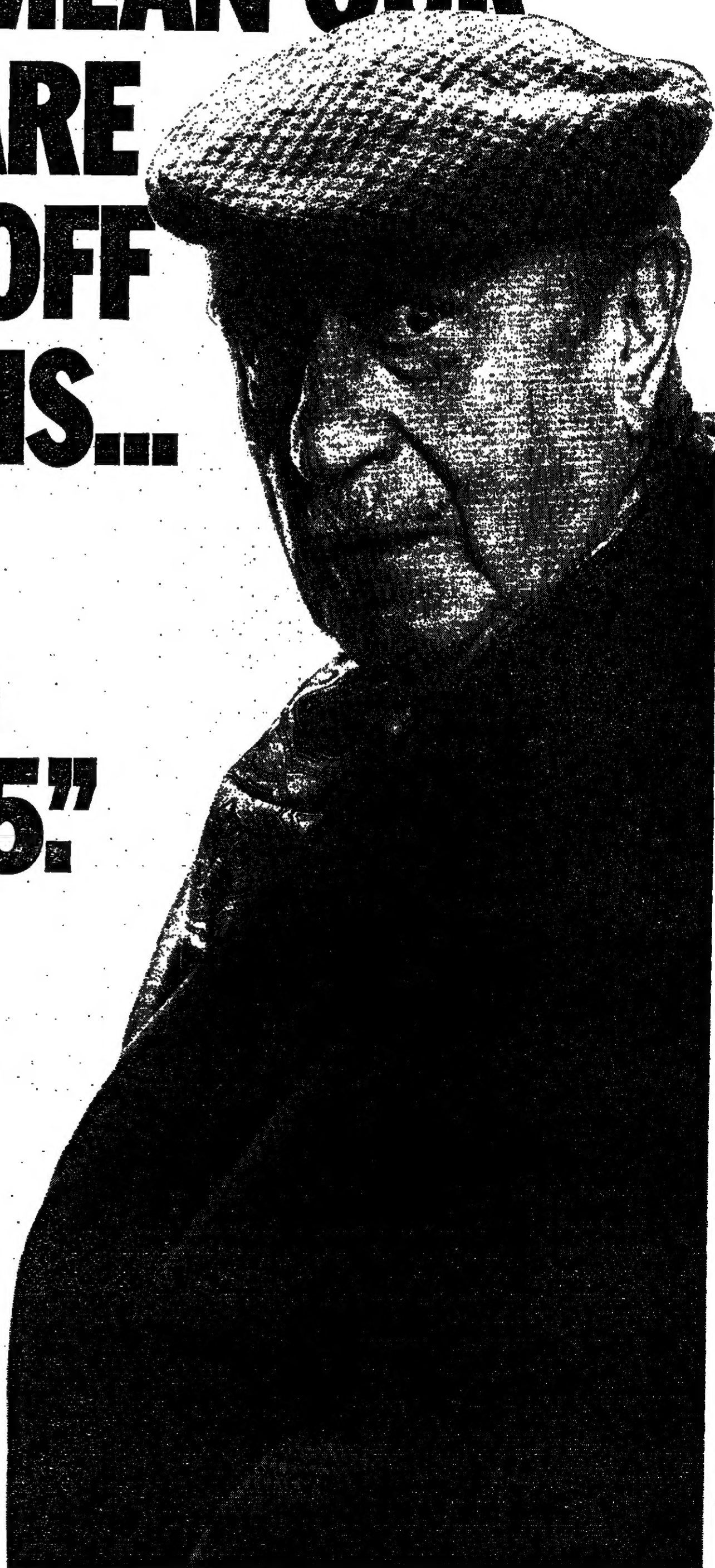


**Fighting for
a healthier future.**

The Association of the British Pharmaceutical Industry

"WHAT D'YOU MEAN OUR MEDICINES ARE COMING OFF THE NHS..."

...we're
over 65."



Flurry of contacts on Cairo initiative

From Ian Black in Jerusalem

Contacts between Egypt and Israel about Cairo's latest Middle East peace initiative intensified yesterday as both sides expressed an interest in maintaining momentum in the search for negotiations that could bring Israel, Jordan and the Palestinians into direct communication.

The Israeli Prime Minister, Mr. Peres, met until the small hours of the morning with President Mubarak's senior political adviser, Dr. Osama al-Baz, and conferred later yesterday with another Egyptian Foreign Ministry official, Mr. Abdul Halim Badawi. The director-general of Mr. Peres's office is due to fly to Cairo today.

These are the first public high level talks between Egypt and Israel since the deterioration of relations which followed the invasion of Lebanon in 1982.

Mr. Badawi, said after seeing Mr. Peres that he had brought a personal message from Mr. Mubarak. A spokesman for Mr. Peres said that the talks dealt with issues "concerning the improvement of relations between Egypt and Israel and furthering the peace process in the light of President Mubarak's recent proposal."

Mr. Peres reiterated Israel's support for direct negotiations with Jordan or a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation without the participation of the PLO. "Both sides recognised the need and urgency to further the peace process and will intensify contacts," the spokesman said. Israeli sources said that they had now received a full explanation of the Egyptian proposal and believed that progress was being made.

But there has been some grumbling from Israeli sources about the conduct and content of the talks with Mr. al-Baz.

Egyptian sources said that the main purpose of Mr. Mubarak's idea, first revealed in a newspaper interview earlier this week, was to arrange a meeting between American officials and a putative Jordanian-Palestinian delegation, the only one to consider inviting Israel to take part in talks.

French Unifil troops called 'the worst sons of bitches'

Paris defends troops from Rabin's 'coarse' slur

From Campbell Page in Paris

The French Government used strong but conventional language yesterday to defend its troops in south Lebanon against an Israeli minister's description of them as "the worst sons of bitches" in the United Nations Interim Force (Unifil) sent to maintain peace and security there.

The Israeli ambassador in Paris was called to the foreign ministry. Mr. Roland Dumas, the French Foreign Minister, told a regular cabinet meeting that statements made by the Israeli Defence Minister, Mr. Yitzhak Rabin, on Tuesday to the Knesset's foreign affairs committee were "coarse" and his charges "unworthy and unjustified." He noted with regret "the aggressive incidents to which the French soldiers had been subjected by the Israeli army."

One version of Mr. Rabin's outburst attributes the word "bastards" to him. The accepted version here is "less pious salauds." Out of a series of dictionary definitions — swine, filthy beast, skunk, son of a bitch — probably the Americanism "sons of bitches" gives the force of the remark.

The sessions of the foreign affairs committee are private but are regularly reported by the Israeli news media.

The French contingent in Unifil, composed of 5,800 soldiers from 10 countries, is apparently highly regarded by the local Muslims for its serious attempt to offer protection.

Recent reports from south Lebanon mention two incidents. French and Israeli soldiers came to blows which the Israelis decided to destroy

houses in a Shi'ite village after a patrol had been fired on. An Israeli soldier apparently fired a UN convoy as it crossed the river Litani.

Mr. Rabin clearly gives precedence to the security of Israeli forces as they withdraw from south Lebanon and to their eagerness to deal with terrorism. He told the foreign affairs committee that the Israeli army had killed 15 terrorists and wounded 22 in the past week; he accused Unifil of hampering Israeli action and he regretted the Unifil presence in south Lebanon.

After a half-hour meeting with the secretary general of the French Foreign Ministry yesterday, the Israeli ambassador, Mr. Ovadia Sotomayor, described the recent examples of friction between French and Israeli troops as regrettable and said there was no real bone of contention.

"Our army has to defend itself against terrorist attacks which are the work of Shi'ite elements, who are the common enemy of France, Israel and the rest of the world," he said. "They are the same people who in the past have launched attacks against American, French and Israeli soldiers in Lebanon."

A statement issued in Paris by the Foreign Ministry and Defence Ministry said France respects the decision of the United Nations which established Unifil and defined its mandate according to which French soldiers are carrying out their peace keeping mission in Lebanon.

The row between France and Israel came only two days after the Israeli Foreign Minister, Mr. Yitzhak Shamir, visited Paris.



Two French Unifil soldiers take up positions near Naqoura in southern Lebanon

Passengers freed after deported Syrians hijack German plane

Vienna: Two Syrians being deported from West Germany commandeered a Lufthansa airliner with 43 people aboard and forced it to land here yesterday during a flight from Frankfurt to Damascus.

The hijackers, said to be armed with broken bottles and cutlery, asked for political asylum.

They released all 33 passengers after about 2½ hours of negotiations with Lufthansa officials. The eight crew remained aboard. One of the men told negotiators: "If somebody approaches less than

150 metres, the captain will be killed."

Earlier, 21 of the passengers were released. They were taken to a closed-off waiting room, and reporters were not allowed to contact them.

A spokesman for the West German Interior Ministry declined to name the two men or say why they were being deported, but he did say they were known to police.

He said that the men, both aged 27, had been taken to the plane under guard, but left unguarded once aboard because "it is a direct flight to Damas-

cus, and that's why a guard wasn't necessary."

The Syrians had been detained in West Berlin after being refused asylum and were being deported to Syria.

They originally demanded that their request for asylum be considered by the German government, but later changed their demand to asylum in an unspecified neutral country. Austria has a tradition of granting asylum to political refugees.

The hijackers asked for a lawyer who is an expert on asylum questions, an airport spokesman said. — AP/Reuter.

Towns shut up shop in protest

Deeg, India: Police reinforcements were yesterday patrolling the western Indian towns of Deeg and Bharatpur, closed by strikes in protest about the death last week of a politician, Mr. Singh.

Shops, offices and cinemas were closed and streets were empty of traffic, but police said there had been no violence.

The towns of Deeg and Bharatpur, in Rajasthan, had also observed total strikes in response to a call by opposition groups, but life was normal in the capital, Jaipur.

Man Singh, brother of the former ruler of Bharatpur, and Deeg's representative in the state assembly, and two of his supporters were killed last Thursday. Four people have died and more than 200 have been injured in protests since then.

FPI said the Prime Minister, Mr. Rajiv Gandhi, had ordered the Central Bureau of Investigation to take over the investigation after Man Singh's widow wrote to him.

Police claim that officers shot Man Singh in self-defence after he opened fire at them as they tried to arrest him on a charge of attempted murder. But his son-in-law, Vijay Singh, said the politician was unarmed when he was killed.

Meanwhile, schools, colleges and government offices were ordered to shut until the weekend in Madhya Pradesh yesterday ahead of a protest strike.

The strike, today has been called by students protesting against a government policy reserving 25 per cent of jobs and university places for deprived groups called backward classes. — Reuter.

Soviet Union is accused of massacring Afghan civilians

From Iain Guest in Geneva

A report submitted to the UN has accused the Soviet Union of widespread human rights violations. It accuses Soviet forces in Afghanistan of bombing villages, massacring civilians, poisoning cattle and burning supplies, and summarily executing captured Afghan guerrillas.

The report was prepared for the UN Human Rights Commission, which is currently meeting here, by Mr. Felix Ermacora, an Austrian law professor who has had long experience of investigating human rights on behalf of the UN. Mr. Ermacora has taken part in UN inquiries on Chile and South Africa.

Mr. Ermacora carefully avoids mentioning the Soviet forces in his report which is now circulating among delegates, preferring to refer to "foreign troops." But diplomats agreed that this is almost the only concession he makes to the Soviet Union.

Mr. Ermacora speaks of "reprisals, indiscriminate bombardment, non-payment for hospital zones, maltreatment of prisoners."

"The result in this situation is that many lives have been lost, many people have been incarcerated in conditions far removed from respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, many have been tortured and many have disappeared."

Mr. Ermacora also accuses the Afghan government of holding approximately 50,000 political prisoners, and says that torture by Afghan officials is "commonplace."

In another passage he appears to question the legitimacy of the Afghan Government, and calls for a return to the traditional form of government by council, or Loya Jirga.

Neither the Afghan Government, nor the Soviet Union, operated in Mr. Ermacora's mission, and both are certain

to react with fury to these conclusions.

The report could complicate efforts by the UN Secretary General, Mr. Javier Perez de Cuellar, to find a negotiated settlement to the Afghan crisis.

Mr. Ermacora spent 10 days in Pakistan last December. In one passage, he relates detailed reports of massacres allegedly perpetrated by Soviet troops. In one operation, at the village of Padkhwab-e-Shana, in the province of Logar, 105 civilians and combatants took refuge in an underground irrigation tunnel. Soviet troops seized a "whitish" powder with inflammable liquid, poured it into the tunnel and set light to the people. The charred remains of 12 children were later found among the bodies.

Mr. Ermacora says that this whitish material appears to have been some kind of poison.

Ershad plans plebiscite to beat election boycott

From Amin Chowdhury in Dhaka

President Ershad plans to hold a referendum next month on his development policies and programmes as Bangladesh's return to democracy remains uncertain.

General Ershad, who will be celebrating the third anniversary of his takeover of the administration in March, is expected to announce the referendum in a national broadcast at the end of the week.

Sources close to the President said the Government had been left with little option but to seek a vote of confidence on its policies and actions because parliamentary elections, set for April 6, will almost certainly be abandoned after boycott threats from the main opposition political parties and groups.

The Government has already postponed the deadline for filing nominations indefinitely. Officials said the President is likely to explain the reasons for cancelling the parliament

ary elections and underline his future course of actions. He is currently consulting his army commanders and political aides to decide the future course of action.

A meeting between General Ershad and senior officers of the armed forces last weekend was given wide publicity by the official media, but no details of what was discussed were made public. Political observers in Dhaka believe it to be an indication that the president will opt for a "tough line" to deal with politicians.

President Ershad partially relaxed martial law by dismantling military courts and officers of lower level military administrators to prepare grounds for the parliamentary elections in April. But sources said these concessions may be withdrawn.

Martial law will be back in full force, sources indicate, and the Government will deal harshly with politicians who try to prevent the referendum.

Three gang leaders accused

Taipei: A court yesterday indicted three gang leaders on charges of killing a Chinese-American writer in California in a case which also implicated senior Taiwanese intelligence officials.

The indictment said that Chen Chih-li, aged 41, Wu Tun, aged 35, and Tung Kuei-sheng, aged 33, who has fled to the Philippines — had been charged with murder, illegal possession of arms, and organising criminal societies.

The Justice Minister, Mr. Shih Chi-yang, earlier told Parliament that Chen, head of the Bamboo Union gang, said under questioning that he was ordered by Taiwan's Military Intelligence Bureau to kill Henry Liu in Daly City on October 15.

Mr. Shih said the bureau had admitted employing Chen to spy for Taiwan against China but denied it had ordered him to kill Liu.

The indictment said Chen had met the head of the Military Intelligence Bureau, Vice-Admiral Wang Hsiung, and other senior officials last August and he later plotted to kill Liu.

It said Wang and two other senior officials had been turned over to military prosecutors for investigation. The three are likely to be court-martialled, official sources said.

The indictment said that under Taiwan's law its citizens who have committed crimes abroad carrying more than three years imprisonment could be tried here. Murder carries a minimum 10-year jail term in Taiwan.

It did not say when the trial would begin.

Sihanouk sets out composition of Kampuchea talks

From Richard Yallop in Melbourne

Prince Sihanouk, the former Kampuchean head of state, yesterday spelled out the composition of his proposed international conference on Kampuchea, which he hoped would lead to the eventual formation of a democratic government of national reconciliation for the country.

The 63-year-old prince, who is in Australia as a guest of the Government, proposed the international conference in talks with the Foreign Minister, Mr. Bill Hayden, on Tuesday.

Mr. Hayden said Prince Sihanouk proposed that the participants would include Kampuchean groups, the Asian countries, China, the Soviet Union, Australia and the countries of Indo-China.

Prince Sihanouk, talking to journalists in Canberra, yesterday added the US, France, and Britain (as permanent members of the UN Security Council) as well as India, Japan, and New Zealand. He specified that the Indo-Chinese countries should be Vietnam, Laos and Kampuchea. Kampuchea should be represented by the coalition government formed by Prince

Sihanouk, the anti-Communist Son Sann, and the Khmer Rouge.

The Prince appeared anxious to distance himself from the Khmer Rouge when he referred to the coalition government as a "whitish" powder with inflammable liquid, poured it into the tunnel and set light to the people. The charred remains of 12 children were later found among the bodies.

He suggested the talks could be along the lines of the 1954 Geneva conference on Indo-China.

Next month, Prince Sihanouk and the Vietnamese Prime Minister, Mr. Phan Van Dong, will both attend a conference in Bandung, Indonesia, marking the 30th anniversary of the founding of the non-aligned movement. Prince Sihanouk said he would only talk to the Vietnamese Prime Minister if he recognised him as the president of the Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea.

Prince Sihanouk does not recognise the Vietnam-backed Khmer Rouge regime in Kampuchea. He accused the Vietnamese of seeking to achieve the "colonisation and Vietnamisation" of Kampuchea, and called on them to withdraw their troops and to give independence and territorial integrity to the Kampuchean people.

Australia does not recognise the Heng Samrin regime, or Sihanouk's Coalition. Mr. Hayden has played a mediating role in the search for a settlement to the Kampuchean problem, and he has good relations with Hanoi. He has reacted cautiously to Prince Sihanouk's proposal of conference, and Australia's participation.

"If Prince Sihanouk's proposition were to be responded to positively by a fairly wide range of concerned and involved parties, then we could look at it," he said.

Although textbook writers have experienced pressure for decades, Professor Ienaga's longest-running suit concerns censorship of a book he wrote in 1980 — it was in the early eighties, after the ruling party's landslide election victory, that the campaign was embraced by powerful hawks in the Government.

They decided that the cause of rearmament — of which the Prime Minister, Mr. Yasuhiro Nakasone, is the leading advocate — was ill-served by school textbooks that reported the horrors of war.

First it was necessary to refurbish the image of the 250,000-strong Self Defence Forces, who are given most favoured treatment in the national budget, but who have still not acquired an honourable place in Japanese society since the 1945 defeat.

But this has been hampered by doubts about the legitimacy of the military establishment, which is contrary to the spirit

— and the logic — of the country's postwar "peace constitution." For this reason, the censors have taken to suppressing dissenting voices about the legal status of the Self Defence Forces, Professor Ienaga says.

"It was once possible to write that there is a debate going on," he says pointing to a district court judgment that the armed forces are unconstitutional, "but it is increasingly difficult to refer to questions about the constitutionality of the army."

Three years ago, the movement to reshape Japanese students' view of the world ran into trouble, when China, South Korea, and other Asian countries protested at what they claimed was an attempt to obliterate memories of Japan's wartime atrocities.

But the international row proved only a temporary setback in the ruling party's effort to enhance respect for the

modern military. The only important concession by Japan to neighbouring governments was to reinstate the word "aggression" to refer to its wartime activities in Asia, a term the censors had replaced with the more euphonious "advance."

The unanimous view of textbook writers is that the censors became more strict as the furor died down. The latest school history books contain only a cursory reference to the rape of Nanking, one of the worst atrocities of recent history.

According to the International Tribunal for the Far East, 20,000 women were raped after the fall of Nanking to Japanese forces in 1937, and more than 200,000 men, at least a quarter of them civilians, were murdered. The author of one history textbook was obliged to change the wording to "the number of victims is estimated at over 100,000" with the higher figure relegated to a footnote.

On Tuesday, the government said it would allow development of Cape Town's Crossroads squatter camp, where 18 rioting caused by fears of removal, instead of resettling all its inhabitants.

Sudan rebels in full retreat

From Nick Cater in Juba, southern Sudan

Rebel forces were retreating in disarray yesterday after a series of punishing defeats in southern Sudan.

Units of the Sudan People's Liberation Army attempting to move into the southernmost region, Equatoria, have been beaten by both Government troops and tribespeople.

Short of supplies, and without local support, most of the guerrillas have been forced to withdraw north into the other southern region of Bahr el Ghazal and Upper Nile, where they can move freely: the largest southern town, Juba, has never seriously threatened and has remained fairly calm.

Neither side has admitted the heavy casualties claimed in military communiqués and by the SPLA radio station. The government-controlled radio has broadcast accusations of rape and looting by rebels, while there have been unconfirmed reports that the army destroyed villages where it suspected cooperation with guerrillas.

Such defeats are a blow to the SPLA's professed aim to complete the "liberation" of the countryside in the African and mainly Christian or Fagan south — the first phase of its plan to oust the increasingly Islamic regime of President Numeiri and establish a secular Socialist state with religious freedom and regional autonomy.

The two-pronged advance into Equatoria in late December showed little of what some western observers have described as the "tactical genius" of the rebel leader, John Garang de Mabol.

Garang, a former Sudanese army officer who holds a doctorate in aspects of southern development, welded together the SPLA and founded its political wing, the Sudan People's Liberation Movement, several troop mutinies in 1983.

After attacks on two Nile steamers 75 miles north of Juba in late November and early December, the SPLA assembled two forces, believed to total around 3,500 men. About 1,500 moved south along the Nile's west bank, while the rest came in from further east, striking south towards the town of Lafon in eastern Equatoria.

The west bank force immediately began stealing cattle and grain from the Mandari tribe around Tereka, 50 miles north of Juba. The army was alerted but before it could arrive the Mandari began fighting the rebels, capturing enough weapons to force the guerrillas to retreat west along the regional border. Some foreign aid workers have been pulled out of an area around the towns of Munori and Amardi.

The SPLA raiding is still going on. Most aid workers in Eastern Equatoria were also evacuated as the east bank group marched south to the road between Juba and the town of Lafon. Two people were killed when a bus full of aid workers was shot up. A bus full of women and children was also raked with fire, but without casualties, though there were reports later of raping by rebels. Two western women on the bus were held overnight and robbed, but were released unharmed to walk for two days back to Juba.

Running battles developed as the army moved in. A clerk of Juba, staying in his home village of Kober, south of Lafon, said troops came to warn local people to leave were outnumbered by the rebels and forced back. His village was destroyed by the SPLA and six people killed when they tried to return to collect water.

The rebels moved south again, to Owinikub near the Ugandan border, an area once a stronghold of the Anyanya guerrillas. But the army attacked again and after several hours of fighting, the rebels scattered, some retreating north in small groups, within a few miles of Juba, while the rest are still being hunted down in the nearby Imatong mountains or driven into Uganda.

Mr. Sam de Beer, Deputy Minister for Black Affairs, said in a statement that the families in Valspan township, western Transvaal, would not be moved to Bophuthatswana.

Valspan residents among the estimated two million blacks who face forced removal. More than three million already been resettled since 1960, civil rights groups say.

On Tuesday, the government said it would allow development of Cape Town's Crossroads squatter camp, where 18 rioting caused by fears of removal, instead of resettling all its inhabitants.

On Tuesday, the government said it would allow development of Cape Town's Crossroads squatter camp, where 18 rioting caused by fears of removal, instead of resettling all its inhabitants.

On Tuesday, the government said it would allow development of Cape Town's Crossroads squatter camp, where 18 rioting caused by fears of removal, instead of resettling all its inhabitants.

On Tuesday, the government said it would allow development of Cape Town's Crossroads squatter camp, where 18 rioting caused by fears of removal, instead of resettling all its inhabitants.

On Tuesday, the government said it would allow development of Cape Town's Crossroads squatter camp, where 18 rioting caused by fears of removal, instead of resettling all its inhabitants.

On Tuesday, the government said it would allow development of Cape Town's Crossroads squatter camp, where 18 rioting caused by fears of removal, instead of resettling all its inhabitants.

On Tuesday, the government said it would allow development of Cape Town's Crossroads squatter camp, where 18 rioting caused by fears of removal, instead of resettling all its inhabitants.

On Tuesday, the government said it would allow development of Cape Town's Crossroads squatter camp, where 18 rioting caused by fears of removal, instead of resettling all its inhabitants.

On Tuesday, the government said it would allow development of Cape Town's Crossroads squatter camp, where 18 rioting caused by fears of removal, instead of resettling all its inhabitants.

On Tuesday, the government said it would allow development of Cape Town's Crossroads squatter camp, where 18 rioting caused by fears of removal, instead of resettling all its inhabitants.

On Tuesday, the government said it would allow development of Cape Town's Crossroads squatter camp, where 18 rioting caused by fears of removal, instead of resettling all its inhabitants.

On Tuesday, the government said it would allow development of Cape Town's Crossroads squatter camp, where 18 rioting caused by fears of removal, instead of resettling all its inhabitants.

Handwritten signature or mark.



A gentleman's wardrobe used to speak of correctness and acceptability. It still does today, but colourful slang has taken over from Prince of Wales' English, says Brenda Polan. Pictures by Frank Martin

Albert and the young lions

IN THE long days of empire and arrogance, of industrial revolution and self-made men, the British class system was rigorously enforced by a complicated code of acceptable dress. The English gentleman's wardrobe was enormous, providing for every occasion and activity, and sensitive to every minute fluctuation in fashion emanating from Savile Row. That these fluctuations were infinitely subtle merely made the system more effective, the interloper easier to spot.

Most of the de rigueur outfits conceived at this time pertained to sport — the hunt, the races, the shoot, cricket, rugby football — and the sartorial way was led by the sportsman with most time on his hands, Albert Edward, Prince of Wales. If ever a man was bent on ignoring fatherly advice it was he.

Diana de Marly, in her new book, *Fashion for Men* (Batsford, £14.95) quotes from a letter Prince Albert wrote to his Oxford-bound son: "In dress, with scrupulous attention to neatness and good taste, he will never give in to the unfortunately loose and slang style which predomi-

nates at the present day. He will borrow nothing from the fashions of the groom or the gamekeeper, and whilst avoiding the frivolity and foolish vanity of Dandyism, will take care that his clothes are of the best quality, well made and suitable to his rank and position."

Royal willfulness apart, the impetus for the expansion of the gentleman's wardrobe came from the development of the public-school ideal and what de Marly calls "muscular Christianity." The Aesthetic Movement and Oscar Wilde's troubles had confirmed what the ruling class had long suspected: that learning, sophistication, and culture were dangerously feminine qualities in a man. "The public-school ideal," writes de Marly, "of the simple man, an unquestioning Christian who played the game of life like a game of cricket, and had no truck with challenging ideas, was not equipped for the industrial world of ruthless competition, and that attitude has bedevilled Britain ever since."

A threatened class retreated behind a threadbare philosophy composed anti-intellect-

alism, anti-aestheticism and a passionate commitment to enthusiastic amateurism (the national psyche still finds something slightly distasteful in the concept of a professional sportsman). A chap aspired not to be thought clever, wise or cultivated, but to earn the sobriquet, all-round sportsman.

The upwardly mobile tailors of Savile Row knew an opportunity when they saw it. Led by Henry Poole, who cut a dashing figure in sporting circles and thus attracted patronage for the family firm, they elaborated on basic costumes of convenience and laid down rules for proper dress which might as well have been cast on tablets of stone. Since, at that period, the English gentleman was indeed the lord of the earth and the model for any foreigner who aspired to be thought well-bred or stylish, the costume and the rules were influential throughout the world.

There are, of course, still enclaves of well-defended privilege where both still flourish, but, for most men, they have gradually become irrelevant. And, as that has happened, fashion has appro-

riated many items from the costumes for more generalised leisure wear — the cricket flannels and sweater, the shooting tweeds, even the knickerbockers, the sailing blazer, the golfing cardigan, the hacking jacket and cavalry twill pants, the polo shirt.

It was all done until now in a very discreet and straightforward way, flitting in a forelock-tugging way, some of the class and glamour of the original. This spring all that has changed. The new way with gear is nose-thumbing and amusing. The stripes on the cricket sweater are pretty pastel, the cables are exaggerated. The tweed jackets are cut unstructured and cardigan-comfy in non-traditional lightweight tweeds. The flannels are unpressed and flop happily on to the front of the slightly overdone brogue. The waistcoat under the tweed jacket is tie-tac-man loud or frankly eccentric in a tapestry hunting print design.

Paul Costelloe, one of the most talented and innovative of menswear designers (his womenswear isn't half bad either) has always used wonderfully original tweeds from

both Ireland and Scotland in his ranges. The lightweight summer tweeds are, if anything, even more desirable than the winter ones and are in soft, ready-worn-looking, shades of grey and beige.

Charlie Allen has used some equally beautiful fabrics for this spring and has, in some of his suits, mixed toning fabrics in a manner calculated to make a bookie blush. The effect is light-hearted, witty, and not at all vulgar. The same goes for the bright and busy tweeds and prints which Stephen King has mixed in his cheerful collection.

If the tailors of Savile Row industriously compiled a language of clothes which spoke of correctness and acceptability, then what this generation of designers is talking is the most inventive and amusing of slang. Or just what Albert the Good couldn't abide.



Details

ABOVE: Grey linen jacket 38-44, about £148. Cream linen trousers, about £85. Cream collarless linen shirt (also slate and green) about £80. All by Paul Costelloe from Ireland House Shop, 150 New Bond Street, London W1; S. Fisher, The Piazza, Covent Garden, London WC2; Caroline Berry, Altrincham. Cotton knit cricket slipover (white only with lemon and powder blue stripes at neck) sm, £86 by Artwork from Whistles, 12-14 St Christopher's Place, London W1, and branches; Harvey Nichols, Knightsbridge, London SW1; Lisa Stirling, Manchester; mail order £2.50 p&p from Artwork, 103 Bernadsey Street, London SE1. Argyle socks from a selection at The Sock Shop, W1 Shopping Centre and branches. Tan leather sandals (tan only) 7-12, £55 by Rossetti, 177 New Bond Street, London W1.

TOP RIGHT: Grey and green check single breasted suit (also grey and pink check) 38-42, £270 by Charlie Allen from Jones, 71 Kings Road, London SW3; Barnaby, 18 Kensington Church Street, London W8; Warehouse, Glasgow; Zagger, Chelmsford. Yellow hunting waistcoat, £90 and blue and black striped silk tie with mallards, £15 from a selection at S. Fisher, 23-25 Burlington Arcade, London W1. Paisley V-neck shirt, sm, £45 by Franklin by Roger Dack from a selection at Sprint, 111 Oxford Street, London W1; Burrows and Hare, Paddington Street, London W1. Walking stick, £18.50 from Burberry, 18-22 Haymarket, London SW1; 165 Regent Street, London W1, and Scottish branches.

ABOVE RIGHT: Wool/silk mix tweed single breasted cardigan jacket 38-44 (cream only), £89.95 by Van Gils, from Baron John, 145 Victoria Street, London SW1; Leslies of Bath; Stud Menswear, Manchester. Cotton Toile de Jouy hunting waistcoat, £75 by Ben Anderson from Flex at the Trocadero Centre, Piccadilly, London W1; mail order £1.50 p&p. Striped brown wool trousers 28-34, £75 from Stephen King, 315 Kings Road, London SW3 (new shop opens March 14 at 53 Monmouth Street, London WC2). Cream cotton damask shirt sm, £55 by A. G. K. Potter from Sprint, 111 Oxford Street, London W1, and branches. Riding crop, £5 from Hackett Clothiers, 65c New Kings Road, London SW6.

Restore youthful appearance to the face without surgery



The Harley Medical Group is dedicated to the art of restoring beauty using proven medical methods. For example the Group has a unique medical treatment for the ageing face which reduces and eliminates lines and wrinkles. It is an attractive alternative to costly, conventional surgery and is exclusive to the Harley Medical Group. Our comprehensive range of treatments include body sculpturing by fat suction, collagen implants, nose and ear re-shaping, breast augmentation, reduction and re-shaping, and upper and lower eyelid surgery. The Group's fully qualified staff is pleased to discuss client's requirements at any time entirely without obligation. To arrange an appointment, telephone 01-631 5494 or complete the coupon below for further information. (24 hour answering service).

THE HARLEY MEDICAL GROUP
6 HARLEY STREET, LONDON WIN 1AA

I would like to find out more about the Harley Medical Group and its treatments. Please send me a brochure.

Name: _____
Address: _____
Postcode: _____ Tel. No.: _____
I am interested in the following treatment(s): _____
Post to: The Harley Medical Group, 6 Harley Street, London WIN 1AA.
Tel: 01-631 5494

Given £300 worth of Roland Klein clothes, would you be prepared to show them off on a runway in front of an audience? If the answer is Yes, read on . . .

Anyone for a quick twirl?

IN 1835 Dickens, Son and Stevens moved into Hanover House in newly built Regent Street, the elegant thoroughfare designed by John Nash to provide a salubrious route for the Prince Regent's carriage when he drove from his home in Carlton House to Marylebone Park, later to be renamed after his Royal Highness. It was not until 1894 that the highly fashionable emporium became known as Dickens and Jones.

To contribute to the store's 150th anniversary celebrations, the Guardian will be inviting readers to a special, all-action meet-the-Guardian day in Dickens and Jones on Thursday, April 11. Watch this space for all the details. As an appetiser, the list of events so far includes a chance to meet the editor, Peter Preston, as well as Derek Malcolm, Frank Keating, Colin Spencer, Margaret Dibley, Patsy Simmonds, and Martin Wainwright. Also on hand to answer questions, fend off criticism and blush at compliments will be the editor of Guardian Women, Jane McLoughlin, and the Managing Editor, Ian Wright.

There will, of course, be a fashion show and a chance to meet one of Britain's best and most successful designers, Roland Klein. And since a day like this would lack a little something without a prize or two, I am organising two competitions. The first is a quiz (questions below) for which the prizes will be an expenses-paid trip to London on April 10, lunch in the Guardian boardroom, the afternoon at Dickens and Jones putting together a wardrobe worth £200, tickets for a London show and overnight accommodation at a top hotel. The winner will spend the following day with us at Dickens and Jones and must be bold enough to take a quick twirl on the runway to show off her new outfit. There will also be an extra prize of a basket of cosmetics in new spring colours from Estee Lauder. Plus some White Linen scent. The second competition will be held in the store on



From the Roland Klein collection

the day and the prize is clothing worth £250 chosen from Roland Klein's splendid spring collection which is stocked in Dickens & Jones (plus a gift from Lauder). Roland, the man who has designed the new uniforms for British Airways staff (part of their chic new up-market image), will present the prize himself at the end of the day.

1 Which no longer so tiny retail stores group owns Dickens and Jones?
2 Which quite immodest trio of fashion designers won an award last year for their Arresting Dress?
3 Which female Milanese fashion designer celebrated 30 years in the business in 1984?

- What is the name of the latest chain of boutique-style fashion shops aimed at the 25-40 market launched last autumn? Its hopes are not all that's high.
- Which London retailer introduced Giorgio Armani, Norma Kamali, and Azzedine Alaïa to Britain?
- Who gave Mrs Thatcher a giggle and a good publicity shot last March by making a political statement with her T-shirt?
- Which successful chain of retail shops discovered, and capitalised on, the peacock male in 1984?
- Which three designers (or design teams) did I choose to represent 1984 in the Bath Museum of Costume's permanent collection?
- Who is designer, Nolan Miller's, most dashing clothes-horse?
- Which internationally acclaimed designer is currently stoking the fires of East-Meets-West eclecticism down in Kensington?

Pure New Wool Trousers Nearly HALF PRICE When You Buy Direct!

We supply Britain's finest tailors, including Savile Row, with Yorkshire's finest worsted suitings. A pair of trousers, in our cloth, could reasonably cost you £68 or more. Buy them from us at only £26.99 (£27.99 inc. p&p) for guaranteed satisfaction or your money back, if returned unused within 7 days. The quality and comfort of 100% fine wool... with the unique benefit of a special finish which allows machine washing.

Send for free fabric samples and detailed leaflet or order immediately with complete cash payment.

24 HOUR TEL: (0484) 270229

Bankers
Central House, 100, Victoria Road, London W14 8LD

COLOUR: SILVER GREY, CHARCOAL, NAVY, OATMEAL, BROWN (LOVAT)
WALIST (27" 34" 36" 38" 40" 42")
plus £1.00 p&p any value order or charge Visa/Access (debits only)

I enclose cheque/PO for £: _____
Signature: _____ Name: _____ Address: _____
Postcode: _____

WIN! FABULOUS FIRST PRIZE

The Holiday of a Lifetime
A Delux Caribbean Cruise
for two on P&O's new
Royal Princess with £500
worth of Country Casuals
new CruiseLine Collection.
Plus prizes for runners up.

COUNTRY CASUALS

CRUISELINE COMPETITION
in conjunction with
WOMAN'S JOURNAL

Read Woman's Journal March issue and come to Country Casuals
to find out more about this wonderful competition.



The mark of the zek

Michael Ignatieff reviews a new biography of Solzhenitsyn

Solzhenitsyn: a biography by Michael Scammell (Hutchinson, £18)

Eleven years ago, when Solzhenitsyn was denying the Soviet regime from his little Moscow apartment, he seemed the very incarnation of the adage that Russian writers are their nation's parliament. Now he lives in a dacha in the Vermont woods dismissed by many of his former admirers in the West as a reactionary crank. The pendulum of Western fashion is cruel.

This vast biography — 1,000 pages long — has the weight of a monument. It is an exhaustive attempt to sift the truth from the myth-making in Solzhenitsyn's own memoir, *The Oak and the Birch*, as well as a patient search for the autobiographical thread which runs through his fiction. It is the biography of a conversion experience, the coming awake of a Russian conscience.

Scammell's central achievement is to recover the young Solzhenitsyn, the Leninist adolescent who was the devoted student of the great grandfather Zolotarev that he was glad he could no longer inherit the family estates, the earnest and orthodox young literature student who visited Stalin's birthplace and inscribed his

doggerel on the cover of his exercise books.

When the prophet Solzhenitsyn thunders that the Soviet regime robbed its people of their memory, he knows intimately the human cost of collectively enforced social amnesia. It was only through the power of his own fiction that he was able to evoke the splendour of his grandfather Zolotarev's estate in the pages of August 1917 and, through the magic of the word, come into his lost inheritance.

Solzhenitsyn's selfrighteousness is the righteousness of the convert. His bitterest scorn has always been reserved for those who criticised Stalin only to praise Lenin, yet it was for a Leninist critique of Stalinism that he was sent to the gulag.

Beneath the savage condemnation of anyone who collaborates with the Soviet system, one can just detect the working of a painful memory: the moment at the prospectively named New Jerusalem camp when he agreed to serve as a KGB informer. Although he seems never to have delivered anyone up to the KGB, he always regarded this as the moral nadir of his life.

Later, in the exaltation of standing upright at last — after the publication of *Under a Gothic Sky* — he resisted the temptation of castigating

those — like his editor Tvardovsky — who he believed, with unyielding rectitude, were still on their knees. Like his mentor Tolstoy's savage denunciations of "sexuality", Solzhenitsyn's moralism is built on the darkest personal confrontation with what he condemns.

When Solzhenitsyn says that it was the camps which made him, the truth is more ironic than he realises. His fellow dissidents always believed that many of the most difficult features of his adult personality — secretiveness, cunning, ruthlessness, suspicion of others — were the indelible mark of the zek.

Other traits of his character have deeper Russian roots. The millenarian conception of the writers' mission he inherited from Pushkin and Tolstoy, and also shared with the heroic women, Anna Akhmatova, Nadezhda Mandelstam, Marina Tsvetayeva (who figures in Solzhenitsyn's pantheon).

His blindness towards the West is also a deeply rooted Russian inheritance. Scammell makes the point by noting that most cosmopolitan of Russian radicals, Alexander Herzen, who wrote from his London exile in the 1850s, "saw the inevitable doom of old Europe and felt no pity for anything that

now exists, neither the peaks of its culture nor its institutions." In Communist Russia this tradition of declamation co-existed with rich examples of contract like the Flaubert-Turgenev friendship and Morozov's patronage of Matisse. The Soviet era's closing of cultural frontiers reinforced every form of provincial chauvinism discernable in Solzhenitsyn's diatribes against the West.

One begins to understand these diatribes and the deep artistic and moral conservatism which lies beneath them when one notes that Solzhenitsyn was one of the few Soviet modernists who, like Western modernism, was not a product of the pre-revolutionary Russian modernists — Blokh, Blok, and Mandelstam.

When one understands that the spines of his own modernist inheritance had been broken, one begins to grasp the heroism of his own literary education in the camps, setting off into Siberia armed only with Vladimir Dahl's Russian dictionary and a notebook of Russian proverbs. Small wonder then that he conceives of literature as a heroic profession, the rescue of a people's language from the enforced amnesia of the State. In the period of his exile in the West, however, this millenarian conception of the writer's role encouraged the

Western media star system, with grotesque results. Scammell is scathing about most of Solzhenitsyn's journalistic work since 1974. Solzhenitsyn the creative artist saved the literary honour of his nation; Solzhenitsyn the publicist and public figure often argued with a rhetorical coarseness worthy of Ives.

Millenarian self-assurance has its dangers, but also its compensations. When Scammell went to visit the sage behind his stockade in the Vermont woods, he found him working like a titan on his novels, oblivious to the pendulum of Western judgment.

One may want to believe him for our sake as well as his, but one cannot help hearing the tolling bell of one of his favourite Russian proverbs: "You are born in a clear field, but you die in a dark wood."

JULIAN BARNES has won this year's Geoffrey Faber Memorial Prize for *Flaubert's Parrot* (Corgi), an elaborate and ingenious haunting of the novelist and his territory which is one of the best of recent fictions about fictions. Lady Fisher presented the prize yesterday at a lunch in Queen's Square. This year's judges were Anita Brookner, Norman Shrapnel, and Andrew Sinclair.

Matthew Coady's



DOCK BRIEFS

IN THE case of the Sussex vampire Sherlock Holmes reflects "I never got your limits, Watson." In this second autobiography Michael Field, *Wick's Age* (Hutchinson, £12.95), provides the obituary of a Victorian writer with a golden hearted tart, even a brief affair with Sarah Bernhardt. He emerges as a cross between a Victorian scholar and something out of *L. A. Henry*. All in all, a jaunty addition to the legend though its sentimental passages are more redolent of *Coronation Street* than *Baker Street*.

There are Housman echoes again in M. J. Trow's *The Adventures of Inspector Lestrade* (Macmillan, £7.95). The policeman so frequently authorised by the Great Detective solves 10 bizarre killings, is twice seduced and finally saved from death as a circus ring's human cannonball. This is humour as studied wit with Tennyson, Swinburne and Wilde joining the crowd on the crosswalk. It's a gas.

Monkey Puzzle, by Paula Gooling (Macmillan, £7.95). Death on the campus (what again?). Done, though, with immense dexterity. Victim: old Prof. Stein and mutilated. Suspects have more motives than published theses. Has splendidly stage-managed finale.

Reckless, by Colin Dunne (Secker, £2.50). Sedate northern town twinned with Gomorrah as murder and blackmail are unveiled. Cast includes sadistic agony aunt and looney up at the Hall. Breathless, preposterous and utterly readable.

The Quiet Stranger, by John Buxton Hilton (Corgi, £7.50). Industrial exploitation of Victorian (or provides backdrop to homicide in rural Derbyshire. Detection is simplistic but a superbly atmospheric tale with trimmings as femme fatale turns old heads in hydropathic spas.

Minogue's doxy

Ben Pimlott on studying ideology

Allen Powers: *The Pure Theory of Ideology*, by Kenneth Minogue (Weidenfeld, £16.95).

tor of ideology. On the other hand he is in no doubt that Karl Marx was, and remains, the single outstanding exponent. If it is an exaggeration to claim (with A. N. Whitehead) that all philosophy is a series of footnotes to Plato, "there is hardly any exaggeration at all in saying that ideology is a footnote to Marx." Even those ideologists who hate his doctrines usually pay him the tribute of imitation.

Thus Marxism, anarchism, fascism, racism (even some forms of anti-racism), feminism, all the isms except classical liberalism and conservatism — belong to a single family, consciously or unconsciously loyal to the teachings of a single demonic patriarch and remaining, like him, possessed or dominated by the idea of structural explanation. (The "idea of structural explanation" is the need to explain things

which might otherwise not require a general explanation. To give an example from the social sciences: where Professor Minogue sees thirty or forty per cent of citizens choosing not to vote for their own individual reasons, the ideologist will talk of "electoral apathy" and look for a theory.)

Thus predated, ideology is the enemy of clarity and rationality in public life, the enemy of "academic inquiry" as traditionally conducted in universities, the enemy of the liberal practice of politics itself, because "ideology is a jealous revelation, and it permits nothing else to be envisioned but the revelation itself."

If, however, all this sounds a wee bit polemic, even a dare I say it, ideological. Professor Minogue has an answer: it is characteristic of the ideologist to insist "that whoever criticises ideology must himself be an ideologist" and that the critic of ideology must be an apologist.

But not so fast. The problem with Minogue's critique is not the fact or even the nature of

many of his criticisms, but that he commits the very crime of which he accuses the ideologists: identifying a single enemy, an alien power. Indeed, there is an element of tilting at windmills about the whole exercise.

For all his "pure theory", Minogue's ideology is a fluid concept. But the "Marxism" that supposedly underlies it is of a vulgar and old-fashioned kind. Thus, the author claims that for most of the present century "ideologists" have believed that the first step towards concentrating power into the hands of the liberating class "has actually been taken in the Soviet Union and other ideological societies." If so, then "ideologists" are so narrow and cranky a group that it is scarcely worth to attack them.

Last Seen Alive, by Dorothy Simpson (Michael Joseph, £3.95). Darling of sixties Upper Sixth strangled on return to home town. Fuzz distangle tint of kind that used to make Greek tragedies.

A Dying Fall, by June Thomson (Constable Crime, £7.95). Inspector Finch feels his intuitive way round case of businessman croaked in retirement. Admirably fulfils its contract with reader to baffle then surprise.

Souls in amber

Emma Tennant on a Bloomsbury pastiche

The Brandon Papers, by Quentin Bell (Chatto, £8.95).

"I HAD only to invent an excuse, take the train to London and, instead of being a married woman, become a young man with a girl on my arm strolling through the Galleria in Milan. Herein lies the theme of a Spoof (down to a portrait of Lady Brandon on the cover 'attribution to James McNeill Whistler by Professor Bell')."

And, thrown in for good measure, we are told there is "no evidence that Lady Brandon ever knew or even corresponded either with Leonard or Virginia Woolf."

Then, after a pretty digression into night proper in the Temple of Hyman in the grounds and a Nottingham lace wedding, it's a kind of Parnassus. With Lady Brandon's bottom whipped in the presence of the servants, the cock under that loop. Yes — Lady Brandon, the famous pioneer of therapeutic medicine, of the "maternalist philosophy"

is a man. And the author, who "collected" and "edited" these papers is the nephew of Virginia Woolf.

It's hard to see a book such as *The Brandon Papers* as either light or heavy literature — it is minny minny minny, as George Orwell said, used to ask of a piece of music, or boom, zoom? Possibly the clue to the fearlessness of the tone is that it's a mixture of both, and not intentionally. It is minny minny where the young Mary Portman (later Lady Brandon) cavorts in the Rue de Rivoli or the conservatories of great country houses, and it's decidedly boom zoom when the mores of the day are brought bearing to light: philanthropy, sexual repression, etc.

Then, after a pretty digression into night proper in the Temple of Hyman in the grounds and a Nottingham lace wedding, it's a kind of Parnassus. With Lady Brandon's bottom whipped in the presence of the servants, the cock under that loop. Yes — Lady Brandon, the famous pioneer of therapeutic medicine, of the "maternalist philosophy"



Quentin Bell

correspond with either Leonard or Virginia Woolf.

However, *The Brandon Papers* would have been more bearable if the characters had some fictional life: as it is, poised between supposedly real people who are dead, and the deadness of failed characters, there is a strong sense of Souls in Amber. "Today there is hardly anyone who remembers the fourth baronet," writes her Ladyship, alias Professor Bell. "I would like, if I had the art, to bring him back to life in these pages." That's the trouble, if there isn't the art. The whole exercise can leave the reader cold, too.

THE DAY IN POLITICS

SEX OFFENCES

Clash on kerb crawlers

By Colin Brown

A LABOUR MP, Mr Tom Cox, yesterday joined Tory MPs to prevent the first clause of the Sexual Offences Bill being removed during the committee stage in the Commons.

The Labour members of the committee, led by Mr Alf Dubs and Mr Clive Soley, the Opposition spokesman on the Home Office, argued that the bill, as drafted, could lead to innocent drivers being arrested and prosecuted for asking women a question in the street.

The bill makes kerb crawling a criminal offence for the first time. But the attempt to remove the first clause was defeated by 10 votes to seven on a free vote.

Two Tory MPs, Mr Matthews (Farnham) and Mr W. J. Fox (Dorset), voted with the Labour MPs.

Opponents of the clause proposed to introduce a new clause which would make it an offence for a man to "persistently solicit women (or the same woman) in a manner which causes nuisance or fear."

Miss Janet Footes (C, Plymouth Drake) who sponsored the backbench bill, said she had spoken to the chairman of the Criminal Law Revision Committee which had recommended making kerb-crawling a criminal offence. He had told her that the committee had not wanted to introduce the concept of a "persistent" offence into the law.

Mr Mellor said that those driven to distraction by kerb-crawling would not understand that 50 men soliciting women on two occasions and acting persistently would be guilty of a criminal offence, but one hundred men soliciting once would not. He said one of the strong features of the bill was its ability to act as a deterrent. The aim was to stop kerb-crawling, which was regarded by residents as a nuisance whenever it took place.

Mr Cox said his Tooting constituency was faced with an enormous problem of kerb-crawling and hundreds of women had protested because they had been offended by the approaches of

Rebellion over home sales cash defused after Gow concession to backbenchers

HOUSING

By Alan Travis

THE Housing Minister, Mr Ian Gow, last night conceded the minor concession on local authority capital spending in an attempt to avert a backbench conservative rebellion over a cutback in the proportion of council house sales receipts that local authorities can spend.

Seventy-four Conservative MPs had signed an early day motion protesting that the proportion of capital receipts which a council can spend within one year is to be cut from 40 per cent to 20 per cent.

The Labour Opposition thought they were being crafty yesterday in putting down a motion for debate during the Opposition day in the Commons which echoed the early day motion signed by the potential Conservative rebels.

But Mr Gow attempted to defuse the rebellion by announcing that, contrary to the Government's original proposals, local authorities will now be allowed to retain 100 per cent of receipts from the sale of council houses built especially under low-cost home ownership schemes. But the percentage will still apply to the bulk of council house sales.

Mr Jeff Rooker, the Shadow Housing Minister,

opening the debate, said the cutbacks were building up a "massive crisis" for the future. The order would mean a cutback of \$40 million in housing spending for the city of Birmingham alone and would lead to the end of new build housing for the elderly and the disabled, a halting of structural repairs for high rise flats and no funds for improvement grants.

He cited the backing of the construction industry for his protest, saying that large building firms had set up special divisions to undertake work financed from these receipts.

New house building in England and Wales was now only at the rate of 180,000 per year compared with 285,000 new homes started each year under the last Labour Government.

The Prime Minister had pledged that local authorities selling their capital assets should be able to use the substantial profits to build special units for old people for which there was serious need. Yet this cutback would make that impossible.

Mr Rooker said he had a sheaf of letters from Conservative and Labour councils up and down the country protesting at the crisis caused by the cuts.

"The list of local authorities affected by this measure drawn up by the Institute of Housing is a catalogue of disasters as a result of stopping local authorities spend-



Mr Rooker: "Building a massive crisis for future"

ing their own money," he said.

He appealed to the potential Conservative rebels to support the Opposition motion, saying that the Government had admitted that they did not know how much money was involved and what was the level of unexpected receipts.

Mr Gow said the cutback from 40 to 20 per cent in the proportion of capital receipts that could be used was an essential part of the policy of reducing inflation and sustaining economic growth.

"A cash limit is set each year for local authority capital expenditure. It is per-

fectly true that there was underspending on the local authority capital account in 1981/82 and 1982/83 but that underspend of £583 million in the first year and £270 million in the second year was more than offset by an overspend on current account. In 1983/84 the local authority cash limit was exceeded by £268 million on current account and this year the overspend could be as high as £650 million. It is almost certain that there could be a much larger overspend next year, as high as £1,000 million, if no action is taken."

Since 1975, 740,000 council houses have been sold and local authorities have accumulated receipts of about £5 billion, he said.

Mr John Heddle (C, Mid-Staffs) intervened to ask the minister for an assurance that the proportion would not be cut again next year. But Mr Gow could only say that it was reviewed every year and discussions were taking place about better ways of controlling capital expenditure of local authorities. "The present system is the reverse of perfect," he said.

The minister announced that low cost home ownership schemes were to be exempted from the order after warnings from Conservative backbenchers that such schemes would dry up. "I have reacted to the legitimate fears of my honourable friends," he said.

Local councils will be able to spend 100 per cent of receipts from schemes when they build for sale and where the council allows the developer to build for sale under licence on land it already owns. About 70,000 houses have been built under these schemes since 1979.

Mr Gow concluded: "I understand that the reduction in the proportion is a tough measure, but keeping public expenditure down is a tough business."

The Labour motion was defeated 314 votes to 206 (government majority 98). Only a handful of Conservatives were believed to have abstained.

These points, he said, were obvious and elementary, "but they must astonish our monetarist ministers. The real world must periodically have some impact on Treasury ministers as in the course of their long ideological Odyssey, they occasionally stumble across the economic facts of life."

Ministers are likely to find it particularly sailing that President Reagan, whom they have always regarded as an ally on economics issues, is now being held up by as prominent a "wet" as Sir Peter Tapsell as an example for them to follow.

Sir Peter also poured scorn on the notion that the strong dollar, high US interest rates and the large US trade and budget deficits are some way responsible for the problems of the UK economy, as government ministers have been arguing for the last few months.

"It is strange to see those who have sworn by the merits and inviolability of market forces, to see them now so ready to abandon their principles," he said.

The right policies for a boom were seldom the best policies for a slump, yet Britain seemed to be acting on that eccentric assumption, he said. When the price of oil was soaring the answer was to cut public expenditure, to push up interest rates, yet when the price of oil was plummeting the answer was to cut public expenditure and push up interest rates. "Surely," he said, "there must be some mistake."

He urged the Chancellor to drop his "excessively deflationary" policies in his budget and replace them with policies which would stimulate investment, growth and job-creation without threatening inflation.

The right policies for a boom were seldom the best policies for a slump, yet Britain seemed to be acting on that eccentric assumption, he said. When the price of oil was soaring the answer was to cut public expenditure, to push up interest rates, yet when the price of oil was plummeting the answer was to cut public expenditure and push up interest rates. "Surely," he said, "there must be some mistake."

BLACK SECTIONS

Out of step with Kinnock

By Seamus Milne

LABOUR'S new general secretary, Mr Larry Whitty, has said that he supports local black sections in the party, and opposes the so-called "one member, one vote" system for selecting parliamentary candidates.

On both these internal controversies Mr Whitty has put himself on the opposite side of

the fence from the Labour leadership. Mr Neil Kinnock and Mr Roy Hattersley, have opposed black sections as divisive and



Mr Larry Whitty

strongly support a change in the selection and reelection system.

Mr Whitty's views are revealed in the March edition of Labour's theoretical monthly journal, *New Socialist*. Arguing for local black sec-

tions if constituency parties want them. Mr Whitty says: "If I were a black member of the party I would be very upset that a party which can accommodate all sorts of special interests in its constitution has nothing for blacks, and I'd have the general impression that the party wants black members, but to some extent their activity, but no black MPs or parliamentary candidates."

The new general secretary's position on the parliamentary selection process is just as forthright. "I don't think that a straightforward one person, one vote selection process for candidates is the right solution, personally: it wipes out the role of the trade unions and undermines the representative responsibilities of the general committees of local parties." There is a danger of being driven down the road of democracy by referendum, he thinks.

STUDENTS

Militant move

ACTION against the alleged recruitment of students by supporters of Militant under the Labour Party's banner was taken yesterday by the party's national executive committee, writes Colin Brown.

The committee decided to write to the official student recruitment organisation of the party, the National Organisation of Labour Students, emphasising that it was the only body authorised to represent students within the party.

An attempt to declare the other organisation, the Further Education Labour Students, as incompatible with membership of the Labour Party was

referred back to the party's youth committee.

An inquiry into the operation of FEELS was carried out by the youth committee, which requested action by the NEC.

One of the reasons the NEC refused to take harsher action against FEELS was that it wanted to abide by the party's conference decision that there should be no return to the list of proscribed organisations.

The retiring general secretary of the Labour Party, Mr Jim Mortimer, brushed aside suggestions yesterday that his letter was inspired by a desire to prevent further Militant entry into the Labour Party.

He insisted that action was being taken because of reports that FEELS was in effect poaching on NOLS's recruitment.

Martin Dodsworth reviews new poetry

No tricks please — we're British

The Branching Stairs, by John Ash (Corgi, £4.95).
Northern Summer, by John Mathias (Anvil, £8.95 paper; £10 cloth).
Marko the Prince, trans. Anne Pennington and Peter Levi (Duckworth, £19.50).

THERE'S poetry, and then there's experimental poetry: we don't have much truck with the latter — better truck with the former, the Germans or the Americans. The word "experimental" is made to imply a slur suggesting at once something hopelessly immature and tentative and at the same time a ludicrous attempt to batter poetry into emulating the sciences.

It's as though after all these years the British public were still ready to be outraged by the thought of a poet thinking. And interest in foreign poets is likely to get you into trouble: an attempt to rethink poetry, even one that makes its mark, tends also to push the poet to one side as is the case with the excellent Roy Fisher, whom no one suggested might be Poet Laureate.

John Ash, then, had better look out: he's courting disaster. *The Branching Stairs* shows total commitment to modernist experiment. Poem after poem (and this is a big book) shows indebtedness of one kind or another to modernist techniques, especially in French poetry of this century.

He gives, too, an air of being like John Ashbery, but this is misleading, for Ash's poems are actually about something — in particular, about cultural collapse, the protracted death of the nineteenth century in the latter half of the twentieth, summed up in an excellent poem about an orchestra trapped in a repertoire that ends about 1909, just before twelve-tones composition starts. "We seem to have got stuck round about Brahms. Most symphonies occur every two or three years."

Well, Ash doesn't offer us the usual symphonies, though musical form is very dear to him, probably because it goes against the literariness of vision that sees what it expects to see. His poems are shiny, complex, witty constructions, ever willing to take off into the world, of thought.

Did you think you could just pick up language and use it, as if it were a pen or a spade, — the one called a spade?

He is a genuinely inventive, innovative poet, whose mind moves freely through the world of phenomena. A storm

on the far horizon is described as flickering and crashing in some closed department of time like a shoe shifting in its box, already entered by the idea of the foot.

No use exclaiming that that's impossible: the impossibility and its imagining are the point, the way the mind insists on appropriating to its own ends the world it inhabits, in spite of the distracting, beautiful, variousness of its particulars: "Steam! Violins! Majolica roses! Oiled moustaches! Braided uniforms! Saliva and kisses!" This is an exceptionally interesting and successful book.

Experimental verse is usually more predictable than Ash's. John Mathias is an American scholar-poet, and it is a little too easy to locate his place as one somewhere between Olson's grappling with history and Jonathan Williams's quirky fancy.

The surprises that *Northern Summer*, a sort of collected poems, brings are not semantic: indeed, there's a certain amount of pretension to cut through before the good poems reveal themselves. But they are there — poems about our history and places on our island, perceived by someone with a sharp eye and a quick mind.

Light and airy structures in the space of British history from ancient to modern times (David Jones is a writer much to Mathias's taste), these poems also define areas of our ignorance, empty spaces between memory and fact, as at Rome, the Poessant's flight to Denmark — Mathias makes serious play with such things in a style that, by declining to impose, lets them exert a forgotten force.

Mathias has a section of translations, including a marvellous version of a poem from the Serbian oral tradition, "The Kosovo Maiden." This crops up in a different form in *Marko the Prince*, a beautifully presented collection of the heroic poems associated with the fourteenth-century battle of Kosovo, deeply impressive on their own account and for the light they cast on a great poet of our own day, Vasko Popa.

As Peter Levi says, these poems constitute "one of the strongest and most unregarded rivers of verse in Europe"; they are poems of patriotism, pride and fierce pleasure in life, steeped in folk-tradition and utterly compelling, as when a mother speaks of her child:

I did not mould her from the refined gold,
I did not strike her from silver;
I did not steal her from the sun's body,
God gave her to me with all his heart.



Lisa Alther

Christopher Wordsworth reviews new fiction

Life is a bad joke

LISA ALTHER might not regard an elderly heterosexual male who has managed to steer clear of the analyst's couch hitherto as the ideal choice to review *Other Women* but it proved a thoroughly enjoyable ordeal whether or not it "cuts to the heart of the female predicament."

Whatever her graver concerns, like Tennyson's brook, she can't resist a sudden sally, hence for me most of the enjoyment. It may be a stickler that catches her eye, East More Lamb, 50,000 Coyotes Can't Be Wrong; or a commune of bleeding hearts where the idea of a good meal is sutured bamboo shoots; or silicone breast-implants for Christmas. Life is a bad or bald joke, the determination to puzzle it out is positively bracing.

Experience in Kinfolk is a succession of physical and emotional jerks; this is quite a different — no respect — douche, no unimpaired condoms — of gender permutations and the analyst-analysand relationship, though there is plenty of hooting in the shrubbery of sex.

Caroline, a spirited New Hampshire nurse, is currently immersed in self-discovery, in oscillating cohabitation — pooling their kids — with faith-unfaithful Diana. She sees herself as a hopeless mess, a boundless need to please her lovers, male or female, mulish independence in other areas, the guilty feeling, contracted from pietistic parents and not helped by a Polish baby-sitter who regaled her with bedtime stories of Buchenwald, that tanks in Cambodia and famine in Chad are all her hull.

The men in her past are a motley crew, rejecting or rejected in due course. They have charged her with bedtime stories of Buchenwald, that tanks in Cambodia and famine in Chad are all her hull. The latest contender had their dream future all planned before Caroline chickened out. The therapy, and a certain Whitmanesque throb

Other Women, by Lisa Alther (Viking, £3.95).

Joanna's Luck, by Mervyn Jones (Piatkus, £3.50).

Novel With Cocaine, by M. Ageyev, trans. Michael Henry Heim (Picador, £2.95).

Lana, by Delacorta, trans. Victoria Rafter (Viking, £7.95).

The Skook, by J. P. Miller (Hutchinson, £3.95).

for the miracle of life (planted woodpeckers, spring tulips, a transfer to the delivery ward) are textbook put but the writing is often bitingly alive and perceptive.

If Joanna's Luck seems workaday at first by contrast, Mervyn Jones knows precisely what he is up to in this story of an ordinary girl born in the fifties and trapped, jobless and loveless, in the heartless eighties. The parents have eaten sour grapes and the children need National Health dentistry; sociological comments normally to be avoided like the plague if characters are to be kept alive, is no deterrent here to solid appreciation of good craftsmanship.

An accident stopped Joanna from going to university, the cut-back has put paid to her welfare job, she slings high-priced hash thrice nightly in a buzzing bistro, twenty-four and still a virgin, more through cold feet and the failure of a bookish chum to rise to the occasion than lack of basic attraction.

That condition is twice rectified in an evening, by a drunken oaf at a party and a nicer minicab driver looking for windfalls, leaving her pregnant by one or the other and advised on all sides (good vignettes) to have an abortion. The affirmative ending — there has to be one after a plethora of negatives and disappointments — is tied in pink ribbon but surprisingly effective.

M. Ageyev, author of *Novel With Cocaine*, surfaced mysteriously with a manuscript from Istanbul and was subsequently lost without trace, the book being greeted with carillons of praise when it appeared recently in Paris 45 years after its publication in Russia.

The title has very little relevance, the actual opium content being negligible, and it is sheer bosh for the blurb to quote it with de Quincey as a classic of addiction, but it is a considerable find nevertheless as a study in disintegration and the self-loathing torments of the Russian soul, the mollen obsessions of immaturity reading almost as if Dostoevsky had re-written *Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man*. The remarkable novella is set during the Revolution and its immediate aftermath without a single reference to that event throughout.

A mini-extravaganza that pops and crackles with wit, *Lana* features a middle-aged musician turned master crook and his accomplice, a pre-pubescent nymphette, with a spice of sadism and all the thrills of strip cartoon adventure.

To track kidnappers to their lush lair, round up all the white Rolls-Royces in Paris to dispose of a villain and a 13-year-old Botticelli angel to drive a pitchfork through his belly, *The Skook* is of interest chiefly as a prime example of inter-breeding for the market, in this case the s.f. whimsy of ET with good old folkie America where golden girls lay anything in trousers while the old man goes fishing with a pitcher of vodka until it all comes out in the magic wash. Skook himself, who looks like a friendly amoeba with legs, works loyally to perform several miracles when sleepy Span is chased into an underground cave system by a Manson-type coven.

The same point is implicit in another recent book, Suzanne Dell's *Murder Into Manslaughter* (Oxford, 1984) which argues that if the mandatory sentence for murder were abolished, it would be easier to give suitable sentences for homicides, to the benefit of society, as well as of the judges, doctors, lawyers, and defendants.

Danger signals

by Colin Ward

Killing for Company: The Case of Dennis Nilsen, by Brian Masters. (Cape, £10.95).

INSTANCES of multiple "motivated" murder occur with a certain statistical likelihood, and indeed the author believes that murderers like Dennis Nilsen are "becoming progressively less rare."

What the public found most disquieting was that hardly any of his fifteen known victims were missed by anyone. The mother of one, Billy Sutherland, reported that she had not heard from her son lately and learned that there were already forty people of that name listed as missing persons.

Our obvious comments about a society with no interest in its young, often self-destructive, drifters, are anticipated by Nilsen himself who implies that the whole nightmare need not have happened if we lived in a social ambience where people cared about their neighbours. But this general anger about social crimes, Brian Masters remarks, "is based down to specific anger against the neglect of Des Nilsen."

"If people had cared, they would have seen the plight of Stephen Sinclair, his arms cut to pieces in self-laceration; they might also have seen the obscure and distant Mr Nilsen," who says of himself: "My signals were going out right from the start but nobody seems to have bothered to notice them."

He overwhelmed the incredulous investigating police with details of his killings and of his self-analysis, and during his eight months on remand wrote copiously for the author of this book.

But of course any number of people can have a lonely, moody and withdrawn childhood in an isolated community, and can positively blossom in the army, the police and the civil service, with praiseworthy devotion to duty and to union activism, without the slightest likelihood that when exploring the homosexual subculture they will strangle and dispose of the casual contacts they make in pubs and invite home out of sympathy and the need for human relationships.

A quite important postscript by Anthony Storr argues that pleas of insanity or of diminished responsibility should be dropped. They arose when the death penalty was the only statutory sentence and Dr Storr believes that once a trial has established whether the accused committed the offence, psychiatrists should be brought in to help decide on the future of the offender.

The same point is implicit in another recent book, Suzanne Dell's *Murder Into Manslaughter* (Oxford, 1984) which argues that if the mandatory sentence for murder were abolished, it would be easier to give suitable sentences for homicides, to the benefit of society, as well as of the judges, doctors, lawyers, and defendants.

We'd like to share a few words with you.

Devastating...
FRANCIS KING'S ACT OF DARKNESS
The triumph of a master novelist.
A terrific mystery story... a darkly luminous parable about innocence and evil, guilt and redemption.
— *The New York Times*
£2.50

Riveting...
THE KINGDOM BY THE SEA
PAUL THIÉROUX
His candid, compulsive and very funny account of a journey around the coast of Great Britain.
"Brilliantly written" — *Daily Mail*
£2.50

Dramatic...
MICHAEL HASTINGS TOM AND VIV
haunting play
By a dramatist of talent about a poet of genius, scrupulous, witty and touching.
The story of T.S. Eliot's tragic first marriage.
Re-opens at London's Royal Court Theatre on 22 March.
£2.50 KING PENGUIN

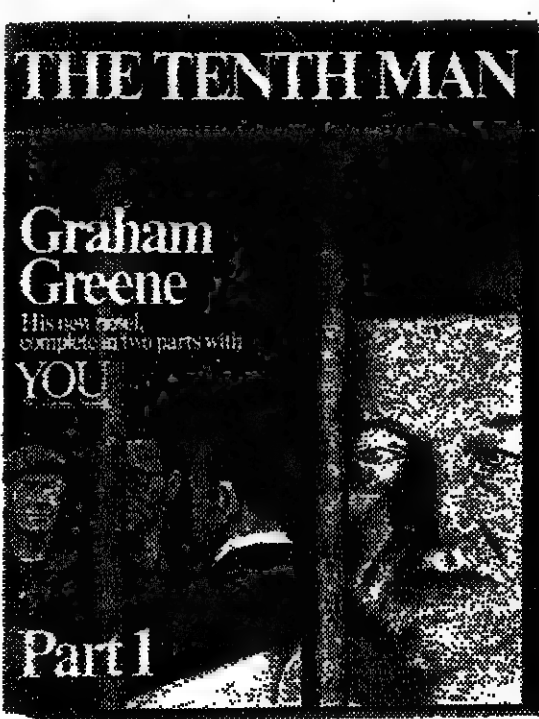
Outrageous...
Diva and Nana Delacorta
The thriller that inspired the sensational film — and its classy, ice-cool companion.
"Fast, sexy, witty and very hip" — *Time Out*
£2.50 each

Fascinating...
PENGUIN LITERARY BIOGRAPHIES
Four acclaimed literary portraits launch this exceptional new series.
Victoria Glendinning's **ELIZABETH BOWEN** (£3.95).
JOHN KEATS by Robert Gittings (£4.95).
F. SCOTT FITZGERALD by André Le Vot (£4.95) and Michael Meyer's **IBSEN** (£5.95).

Outlandish...
Robert Asprin's new **THIEVES' WORLD** adventure
Shadows of Sanctuary
Fantastical forays into the alien world of Sanctuary — a mythic land of sword-play, sorcery, magic and mayhem.
£1.95

50
Fifty Penguin Years

Readers of other Sunday papers will be talking about this novel.
Readers of The Mail on Sunday will be reading it.



The discovery of Graham Greene's lost novel 'The Tenth Man' is already the publishing event of the year.
For forty years it has been locked away in a safe in the offices of MGM.
Now the safe has been opened to release to the world yet another masterpiece of storytelling from the author of 'Brighton Rock', 'The Honorary

Consul' and 'The Third Man'.
Set in France during the occupation and those fragile weeks following liberation it is a story of fear, recrimination and obsession.
Of weakness and fortitude.
You can read it as a separate pull-out this Sunday and next only in The Mail on Sunday 'You' magazine.

Complete and unabridged.
This novel has been waiting forty years to be read. Now you need wait no longer to read it.



Starting tomorrow
Short Story Competition
£2,000 IN PRIZES
Barry Unsworth & Fay Weldon
Send in, for details and entry form.
STAND MAGAZINE
SHORT STORY COMPETITION
75 Wingrove Road
Norwich NR1 1AA

ETHIOPIA
The Challenge of Hunger
GRAHAM HANCOCK
HOW DID IT HAPPEN?
WHAT CAN BE DONE?
Graham Hancock, the former *Economist* East Africa correspondent, provides a clear, unbiased explanation of the international tragedy and offers long-term solutions.
A Gollancz paperback
£3.95
Gollancz

THE SILENCE IS BROKEN
STEPHEN KNIGHT
"Sensational revelations" — *Daily Express*
THE BROTHERHOOD
Now in paperback, the most revealing exposé of Freemasonry ever written
GRANADA

One more heave, lads, all together

The dollar's relentless rise on the world's foreign exchange markets was thrown sharply into reverse yesterday when European central banks, sensing that the psychological moment was high, indulged in a short, sharp dollar selling operation. Even without any direct help from the US Federal Reserve Board (whose masters deemed it inopportune to be undermining the currency so soon after the President had been sweet mouthing it up) the banks succeeded in knocking a record 5 per cent off the sterling dollar rate in a matter of hours. The dollar recovered a bit in the afternoon, but the operation had already proved that the central banks, even without the mighty Fed, have been far from powerless.

The window of opportunity was provided by Mr Paul Volcker, chairman of the Fed and arguably the most influential man in the world as far as financial markets are concerned. Wall Street analysts are paid vast sums to read his Sphinx-like mind. But on Tuesday he dropped the riddles and bluntly told the House Banking Committee that recent central bank intervention to stem the rise of the dollar had not been forceful enough. This immediately set the markets guessing. Do they believe the President or the Chairman of the Fed who (in contrast to his initiating role in monetary policy) merely executes decisions taken by the Treasury where intervention is concerned? Will the real auto-cue please stand up. Whatever the truth of it the central banks realised that the very confusion that had stemmed the recent manic rise of the dollar provided the perfect time to intervene to help it afloat down the cliff face.

Of course the central banks cannot cure the dollar problem. In the longer term the US administration must do something to bring down the \$200 billion plus Budget deficit which (as Professor Hayek reminded us yesterday) is sucking in a large part of the world's savings thereby making capital for investment elsewhere both scarcer and more expensive. But what should be done now? If yesterday's foray into coordinated intervention was the most dramatic manifestation of the agreement in principle reached at the 1983 Williamsburg Summit, then now is the time to pursue another Summit principle: convergence of economic policies. So far this has meant an over

reliance on tight monetary policies. What is needed now is convergence of fiscal policies. That doesn't mean every country converging on Mrs Thatcher's obsession with progressively reducing Government borrowing. It means the United States taking real steps to reduce its own Budget deficit while other industrial nations — notably Japan and the nations of the EEC — take steps to ease their own tight fiscal policies.

A simultaneous movement of this kind could cushion the fall of the dollar and induce a more prolonged recovery in the rest of the world, which has been living too much off the crumbs from President Reagan's table. If yesterday's foray has proved one thing it is that the governments of the world are not so helpless to influence events as they would have us believe. If intervention be the name of the new game, let it be played on the world stage and with all the participants taking an active role.

Don't hector Mr Lange

Even though we do not agree with it, we can understand the American objection to the New Zealand government's exclusion of ships equipped with nuclear weapons or reactors from its ports. It is estimated that as many as four out of five US warships fall into one or both of these categories, and since the US Navy never discloses which of its ships are nuclear and which not, the ban effectively puts New Zealand off limits altogether. This, the Americans argue, makes a mockery of Anzus, the 35-year-old defence pact of Australia, New Zealand and the US, and they have therefore begun to take punitive measures against Mr David Lange's Labour administration.

What passes our understanding altogether, though, is the way in which Mrs Thatcher fell over herself to condemn New Zealand's stance during her visit to Washington last week — unless it really is true that she was trying to dredge up every possible means of appeasing her host (who casually torpedoed sterling the moment she bowed herself out). This gratuitous intervention in the affairs of another Commonwealth country, of an alliance which has nothing to do with Britain and of a region in which Britain has no strategic interests, is something the respectable Mr Lange will probably wish to take up while he is here this week. The fact that the Royal Navy is due to visit New Zealand late next year, and that it too never reveals whether individual ships carry nuclear arms, hardly seems sufficient reason to join in the public

bullying of Wellington. If her main concern is the potential effect of New Zealand's policy on the anti-nuclear movement in Britain and Nato, silence would still have been a more judicious response.

The only participant in the great Anzus future to exhibit the reputedly exclusively Thatcherite quality of consistency is in fact Mr Lange. He campaigned on an anti-nuclear platform in the election he handily won and expounded his policy at the United Nations. All the evidence suggests that his electorate is strongly in favour of his position. Nor is the wish he professes to stay in Anzus illogical or an attempt to have his cake and eat it. Anzus is not a Pacific Nato with an integrated military structure, but merely a treaty requiring its signatories to act jointly against an attack on any one of them. Mr Lange's goal of keeping nuclear weapons out of the South Pacific is not inconsistent with this commitment, especially as no nuclear power (with the possible exception now of the US) poses any threat to New Zealand. The fact that Mrs Thatcher upholds and expands Britain's role as a nuclear missile-carrier gives her no right to join in the attempt to make New Zealand knuckle under.

The land of blue dragons

Under Conservative governments in days not so long gone by, today's Commons debate on Welsh affairs would be a straight party political up and downer. The red shirts, with the wind from the Taff river at their backs, would put the English Tories under pressure from the off. The old songs would be sung, and some bandy-legged wizard would rattle up the political points as the miners up front pushed the English all over the park. Today, it all looks a lot more vulnerable. England may still be incapable of beating Wales at the National Stadium, but Cardiff now has three Tory MPs to Labour's one, while the Conservative Party is once again a force in Welsh politics. As recently as 1983, Labour won 32 of the 36 seats in Wales, with 3 to the Tories (two of them on the northern Costa Geriatrica) and the obligatory Liberal in Montgomery. Today, Labour holds a bare majority, with 20 out of 38 seats; the Tories have 14, and the Liberals and Plaid Cymru two each. Since 1983, Wales has been less a Labour heartland, more a part of electoral southern Britain.

These changes reflect the changing social and economic shape of Wales. As ever, this is most marked in the south,

where most of the Welsh live. Six years ago tomorrow, Wales voted by four to one against plans to set up a Welsh Assembly with devolved powers. Today, in a Wales which is ever more conscious of its British identity, the economic bedrock of traditional Labour support is breaking up before our eyes. Nowhere is this clearer than in the coal industry. Seventy years ago, a quarter of a million men worked in the pits; today, Wales's 21 surviving coal mines employ a mere 21,500 miners. Over the past 12 months, the South Wales miners have waged a heroic and disciplined fight to prevent the further contraction of their industry. The strike in South Wales has been almost entirely non-violent and, until very recent days, it has been prodigiously united. But, for all that, it is the defensive unity of an industrial ghetto. The real characteristics of the valleys today are mass unemployment (now 19.2 per cent in Mid-Glamorgan) and a steady shift to high technology industry. Wales has the highest concentration of Japanese industrial investment in Britain. Today's typical valley employers are no longer Guests or Crawshays, or even British Steel and the NCB; increasingly they are Aitwa, Hitachi, Matsushita and Sekisui.

These changes do not necessarily offer rich political pickings for the Tories. The Welsh Secretary, Mr Nicholas Edwards, who sits for the one-time Labour agricultural seat of Pembroke, is very well aware that Wales's many livestock and dairy farmer voters are in rebellious mood over EEC subsidies. For Welsh Tories, as for Welsh Labour, the Alliance poses an increasing political challenge. The SDP's strong showing in the one Welsh by-election of this parliament, Cynon Valley, is a reminder of that. And it will be well worth watching the Alliance showing in May's Welsh council elections. In every way, the Welsh identity is changing. Channel 4's excellent current series, *The Dragon Has Two Tongues*, is drumming that point home every Wednesday evening. Politically, though, Wales speaks with three or even four voices today. But good luck at Murrayfield on Saturday, boys.

When the wool starts thinking

To the best of our knowledge the sheep in the Yorkshire Dales, which are mostly Swaledales or Dalesbreds, have yet to master the technique of crossing cattle grids by curling up and rolling over them. Yet the sheep surrounding Blaenau Ffestiniog, which are a different breed, have learned

how to do it (to the annoyance of the town, which may have to put up a fence) and so have the lowland sheep of southern Sweden. Among the questions which immediately arise are how long it will take the Swaledales to learn and whether, when they do, they will be demonstrating the theory of formative causation. This theory, which was developed by Dr Rupert Sheldrake, has been much discussed in our Futures pages and is abominated by the editor of *Nature* who thinks Dr Sheldrake's book is a candidate for burning. If the sheep have learned the cattle grid is already obsolete. All those gates will have to be put back.

Somewhat simplified, the theory states that when several members of a species have first performed a feat it becomes easier for other members to do so, regardless of time and place. A prime example is the young cuckoo which, because of its parents' lifestyle, never sees them. It migrates at a different time of year and yet finishes up at the same place. Dr Sheldrake postulates that genetic programming is inadequate to explain this and similar phenomena and that another conduit of information, a biological "field" analogous with a magnetic field, must be sought. It may of course be that sheep pick up the trick by observation, even though contact between those in Gwynedd and those in North Yorkshire is limited. To eliminate that possibility an isolated control group is required, and the Falklands sheep spring inevitably to mind. (At present they are blowing themselves up by treading on Argentinean mines, so that the theory of formative causation, if valid, permits mimicry but confers no evolutionary advantage in the sense of avoiding premature death.)

The other possibility is that the sheep of Blaenau Ffestiniog, and of the Malmoeus region of Sweden, are exceptionally gifted. The Welsh ones are noted for their tenacity, and not merely on precipitous ledges. They sleep, for example, on the white lines in the middle of mountain roads, and the only satisfactory reason appears to be that that is where their ancestors used to sleep before the roads were metalled. They thus make the valid point that Welsh people are not the only claimants to the principle. But if Sheldrake is right it is only a matter of time before the Falklands sheep assert themselves. When they do perhaps the humans can be offered a headage payment so that the Falklands can go out of people in the way that farmers go out of milk. In that case the controversy would reach an unexpectedly ovine, even sheepish, conclusion.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

How an MI5 inquiry would clear the name of my friend

Sir.—The material thrown up by the Channel 4 20/20 Vision programme is certainly serious enough to be thoroughly investigated and evaluated; and I hope that it will be possible not only to discover whether there has been improper interference with the political processes, but also to produce evidence to substantiate the smearing of those mentioned in the programme — such as the late Harry Newton.

Harry Newton was a personal friend from the early 1970s. He influenced me politically in many ways, and I was always happy to draw on his considerable experience and political wisdom. Despite his failing health, he spoke at a Liberal conference in London shortly before his recent death and it was, as ever, valuable to experience his warmth and good counsel.

Harry Newton's whole political life was an example of integrity and honest inquiry, even if it led him into difficult personal situations. I

can recall his distress at being ostracised by a few former trade union colleagues after he had thrown his lot in with the Liberals in Leeds.

The circumstances of the termination of his employment with the Workers' Educational Association in Leeds, and the closure of Fircroft College in Birmingham with the consequent loss of his lecturing post, were examples of the price of integrity, not of any kind of self-out.

In later years, after a lifetime of determined atheism, he told me rather shamefacedly that he had begun to attend Quaker meetings and to ponder whether there were spiritual realities to which he had been blind hitherto.

I cannot think of a single instance of bitterness or of deviousness that would begin to suggest that he could conceivably have been an informer. Those making such allegations must produce evidence rather than have the

memory of such a friend and colleague marred. — Yours faithfully, Michael Meadowcroft, MP. (Leeds W), House of Commons.

Sir.—Why doesn't Michael Heseltine follow his own precedent? His proper course is to offer the IBA immunity from prosecution to enable the MI5 film to be shown, thus establishing his democratic credentials; then to renege on the promise by encouraging the law officers to prosecute Miss Massiter; thus enabling a second jury a chance to agree with him about the Official Secrets Act.

If by any chance it disagreed, it could always be referred to an NHS psychiatrist. — Yours faithfully, Christopher Driver, London N1.

Sir.—There will be many who suspect or believe that CND and the NUM are subject to surveillance by MI5.

However the allegations made by Ms Massiter are wholly unconvincing insofar as they relate to Harry Newton.

The dead are easy targets for political character assassination, but it does no service to those who are genuinely concerned to discover the truth about political spying on fellow citizens.

If Harry Newton was recruited to MI5 in the 1950s, it is most implausible that he should have delayed joining CND until 1982. Neither would he have had much opportunity to file regular reports on CND headquarters, because by that time he was seriously ill; active, as far as his health permitted; and, as Ms Massiter herself concedes, in the Institute for Workers Control and other socialist organisations; and left London after a greatly disabling heart attack early in 1983.

In any event the only "report" he is specially alleged to have made — on Bruce Kent — was not a fact

but an opinion which, if he ever held it, and whether or not there was or is any truth in it, could have been formed by anyone who reads a newspaper or watches television. Bruce Kent is rightly sceptical that anybody, let alone a government agency, would have paid for such non-information.

As Harry Newton's many friends and colleagues in the Labour movement know perfectly well, the truth is that he was a respected and lifelong activist in left-wing political groups. His commitment to socialism was unwavering, and he paid for it more than once in terms of career prospects and of incurring the enmity of powerful people and groups, and those who practices he exposed and opposed.

The allegations made by Ms Massiter do give cause for concern, not least to Harry Newton's family and friends. As yet they are neither corroborated nor tested, and those who doubt the supporting evidence, if not

the thesis, are also entitled to know more. — Yours faithfully, P. Milson, Personal Representative of Harry Newton, Cambridge.

Sir.—As one who knew Harry Newton for more than 35 years, I find the revelations by Ms Massiter — that he infiltrated CND as a MI5 mole — incredible. If he passed on to them the startling news that Mr Bruce Kent was a crypto-communist, can only assume that this is an example of Harry's quirkish sense of humour. Unfortunately Harry cannot answer for himself. I can imagine him chuckling to himself while he sits on his cloud, drumming "We shall overcome" on his harp. It is not funny, however, for his widow and son.

As I do not want my phone to be tapped, I would ask you not to publish my name and address. Name and address supplied.

When one man's view can be another's optical illusion

Sir.—Both sides in the discussion about bias in television news reporting of the coal dispute are missing the point. Their explanations of media bias are inadequate. The real problem lies in the nature of news itself.

It is becoming widely accepted that perception is not a passive one-way process. Our minds must take the barrage of raw data from the outside world and manipulate it in order to make sense of it. We impose our own patterns of meaning on the world.

Optical illusions are an illustration of what happens when we impose the "wrong" meaning at a simple level. But we impose meaning at a much more complex level, too.

You and I see a young man hit another one in the street. You see a thug indulging in a meaningless act of violence for pleasure. I see an unemployed young man who has lost hope and dignity, striking out in frustration at an unfeeling world.

We can draw two conclusions. The most obvious one is that journalists are human beings who do not see the world as it really is, and, like the rest of us, impose their own patterns of meaning on it.

The second has to do with news values. The criteria by which the newsworthiness of an event can be judged. They are important in maintaining the idea that "the news" is the objective truth about the real world.

Most journalists are sincere when they say they believe they are being truthfully objective. But only in maths is there true objectivity — and some physicists would undoubtedly argue with that.

The point is that news values allow us to believe that events have intrinsic qualities which render them newsworthy. But the truth is that we are imposing a particular pattern of meaning on the world.

News values permeate the whole of the media machine and, because all journalists

share more or less the same set values, it is hardly surprising that one view of the world predominates. That this is unhealthy and probably dangerous should be obvious. Let us take one aspect of these values.

News is about events rather than processes. The way news "sees" the world is as a series of discrete and often unconnected events. Of course, events don't just happen; they have causes and consequences.

Picket-line violence as news is an event. News values will not allow for any other treatment of such violence. Journalists must assume that readers are aware of the context. Unfortunately any such awareness usually relies on previous news stories.

Because of the way news "sees" the world, many of us often get the feeling that the world has become a mad, chaotic, meaningless place; the miners must be paid to listen to the ravings of one man; terrorist attacks cannot be carried out by men and women like you and me; kids go to football matches solely for the pleasure of fighting.

According to news, none of these things has causes, and the only consequence is a mad world.

Current explanations of media bias are much too simplistic. We must look for the reasons why the media do not present a greater diversity of views of the world in the way the media machine is put together and how it works. It's no good launching a left-wing paper to redress the balance if it will still be staffed by journalists.

We could really do with an epidemic of mass disillusionment with the media. Perhaps the news media would like to encourage this by prefacing the news with a warning: "This is not The Truth. It's just one way of seeing things." — Yours subjectively, Peter Arnett-Job, Troop Road, Templecombe, Somerset.

Birth of the 10-year blues

Sir.—As representatives of eight organisations working for improvements in postnatal health services, we write to express our joint concern at the further delay over national standards of neonatal intensive care (Guardian, February 22).

The five years originally allocated for implementing standards have become ten. And regions will have to develop strategies for improving facilities within existing budgets. Yet the critical shortage in facilities for very small and ill babies demands urgent action.

Today there is a national shortfall of some 40 per cent in the number of neonatal intensive care cots. Of those available, only 3 per cent have a staffing ratio greater than one nurse per cot, yet the recommended ratio is 4:1. Preliminary results from the most up-to-date profile of neonatal services in the UK indicate paediatricians' extreme concern about current standards. The survey, to be published by Bliss in April, shows that, when invited to comment on the provision of, and prospects for, neonatal care, 60 per cent of respondents mentioned the inadequacy of staffing.

During the past 15 years, nine national reports have highlighted the urgent need to improve maternity and neonatal services. In 1980 the Government undertook to establish minimum standards in staffing and equipment for the maternity and neonatal services; yet in 1985 there are still no established national standards.

The overall decline in perinatal mortality over the last ten years reflects all the more credit on obstetric and neonatal services as the proportion of babies at risk because of their low birthweight has increased.

The professionals all agree: they have the knowledge and skill to ensure the healthy survival of small, frail infants. What is lacking is adequate staffing to put this knowledge into practice, and sufficient equipment for neonatal units.

Yet the Government has chosen to ignore the unanimous advice of the professions to provide more money, and continues to argue that the allocation of resources is a matter for individual health authorities.

The truth is that health authorities have little room for manoeuvre. Failing to provide a special allocation of funds to ensure better maternity and neonatal services may produce short-term savings, but it is financially short-sighted. The costs of severe handicap over one lifetime are estimated to be £500,000; the human costs are incalculable.

We call upon the government to establish clear, irrefutable minimum standards for maternity and neonatal care, and to provide additional funds.

Ruth Evans, The Maternity Alliance.
Moyra Gilbertson, Association for Spina Bifida and Hydrocephalus
Susanna Cleave, Baby Life Support Systems.
Jean Lovell-Davis, National Association for the Welfare of Children in Hospital.
Brian Gie, Royal Society for Mentally Handicapped Children and Adults.
(Sir) John Cox, The Spastics Society.
Gill Mallinson, Stillbirth and Neonatal Death Society.
Michael Colborne-Brown, Voluntary Council for Handicapped Children.

Saving soils from the toils



Sir.—Christopher Chipchase's Grassroots article "How far can we trust the Trust" (February 23) illustrates just how much the wise planning and use of our resources and heritage depend on detailed knowledge of the land.

Different private and public bodies have varying interests and responsibilities for different aspects of land use, and often find it difficult to see the countryside or townscape from a wider perspective.

Where the farm manager's imagination projects fields of barley or grazing cattle, the conservationist may see mature woods or herb-rich meadows. The archaeologist may see the significance and challenge of the humps and bumps in the fields while the forester sees potential for high yielding timber.

What all these people require is a basis on which they might see each other's point of view and allocate sensible priorities for land use. Such a basis is provided by detailed soil maps.

The surveys would also show land suitability for a variety of alternative uses. Costs are very minor when compared with, say, £30,000 for thinning a barn.

In the case of the Wimpole estate the benefits would obviously have been enormous, and this is sure to be true of other estates owned by individuals or organisations.

If the country truly cares about its heritage it must take immediate steps to gain a more thorough scientific knowledge of the land of Britain by encouraging detailed soil surveys, with special emphasis on areas where land use changes are proposed. — Yours faithfully, R. Hartnup, Soil Survey of England and Wales, Aberystwyth, Dyfed.

Miscellany at large

Sir.—Without wishing to lay ourselves open to the accusation that a spirit of irony betrays cynicism or callousness about the fate of homeless animals, the staff at Manchester Night Shelter would like to express its satisfaction that the plight of Tina, the dhole-line cat, has finally brought the issue of the closure of DBSS resettlement units to the prominence of your front-page.

Yours sincerely, Rob Hughes (and four colleagues), Manchester Night Shelter.

Sir.—Your Leader (February 26) on the anti-herbicide Bill ends on a disappointingly facile note. The problems of evidence are complicated. They would exist whatever the attitude of the police, which turns your comment on regarding some men as being more suspicious than others into a fairly standard "let's not miss a chance to nag at the police" type of remark.

These problems are understood but by no means solved. The search for an answer is not advanced by empty jargon about "decriminalising" it is the prostitutes and the herb-crawlers who wish to involve each other in encounters. Let them, therefore, find ways of "decriminalising" their activities and everyone — police, harassed residents and all — will happily cease looking for new legal powers in this connection.

The alternative is Janet Fookes's Bill. Derrick Fryk, Wolverhampton G3 Police Local Consultative Committee.

Sir.—Without wishing to lay ourselves open to the accusation that a spirit of irony betrays cynicism or callousness about the fate of homeless animals, the staff at Manchester Night Shelter would like to express its satisfaction that the plight of Tina, the dhole-line cat, has finally brought the issue of the closure of DBSS resettlement units to the prominence of your front-page.

Yours sincerely, Rob Hughes (and four colleagues), Manchester Night Shelter.

Sir.—Your Leader (February 26) on the anti-herbicide Bill ends on a disappointingly facile note. The problems of evidence are complicated. They would exist whatever the attitude of the police, which turns your comment on regarding some men as being more suspicious than others into a fairly standard "let's not miss a chance to nag at the police" type of remark.

These problems are understood but by no means solved. The search for an answer is not advanced by empty jargon about "decriminalising" it is the prostitutes and the herb-crawlers who wish to involve each other in encounters. Let them, therefore, find ways of "decriminalising" their activities and everyone — police, harassed residents and all — will happily cease looking for new legal powers in this connection.

The alternative is Janet Fookes's Bill. Derrick Fryk, Wolverhampton G3 Police Local Consultative Committee.

Sir.—Without wishing to lay ourselves open to the accusation that a spirit of irony betrays cynicism or callousness about the fate of homeless animals, the staff at Manchester Night Shelter would like to express its satisfaction that the plight of Tina, the dhole-line cat, has finally brought the issue of the closure of DBSS resettlement units to the prominence of your front-page.

Yours sincerely, Rob Hughes (and four colleagues), Manchester Night Shelter.

Sir.—Your Leader (February 26) on the anti-herbicide Bill ends on a disappointingly facile note. The problems of evidence are complicated. They would exist whatever the attitude of the police, which turns your comment on regarding some men as being more suspicious than others into a fairly standard "let's not miss a chance to nag at the police" type of remark.

These problems are understood but by no means solved. The search for an answer is not advanced by empty jargon about "decriminalising" it is the prostitutes and the herb-crawlers who wish to involve each other in encounters. Let them, therefore, find ways of "decriminalising" their activities and everyone — police, harassed residents and all — will happily cease looking for new legal powers in this connection.

The alternative is Janet Fookes's Bill. Derrick Fryk, Wolverhampton G3 Police Local Consultative Committee.

A COUNTRY DIARY.

NORFOLK: A succession of ten nights and days of persistent frost, ice forming on the Norfolk Broads has been thick enough to attract skaters in lemons and ice-yachts have been racing where hollydaymakers cruise delectably in summer. There have been massive ice-floes on the tidal reaches of our rivers, powerful enough in their thrust to dislodge posts marking navigable channels in the estuaries. Snowfall has been meagre and the freezing winds have shrivelled marsh vegetation to papery brownness. Even our native evergreens have not escaped damage. As in January, there has been a renewed exodus

of birds from the wetlands and a further influx of continental visitors such as woodcock and bittern. Despite the generally forbidding aspect of the countryside, some front-free streams and ditches have continued to provide feeding sites for marsh birds. A friend of mine on one day put up no less than five bitterns from a "running" dike fed by a vigorous land-spring and many dykes fringed thickly by trees gathered ice crusts only along their edges. There have been open water rivers and even near the ready shores of some broads, ducks, geese and swans have managed to halt the forma-

tion of ice, through constant disturbance and perhaps, to some extent, the warmth of their bodies. Remnants of snow cover, have shrunk and largely vanished through the drying action of the winds sweeping over pastures and fields of young corn. This situation has been exploited by wild geese, swans, moorhen and coot, which have been quick to nibble the grass blades by day, especially when some warmth from the sun has quickened their growth. So, in a patchwork scene, the bite of this winter, though uncommonly severe overall, has not proved wholly disastrous for our wildlife.

E. A. ELLIS



The medicinal leech was the aspirin of its time. John Elkington explains why it could still have a role in the treatment of heart attacks while, below, Malcolm Smith reports on where to search for *Hirudo medicinalis*

How the sucker helped the clot

SOON patients who survive heart attacks may owe their lives to bed-bugs, leeches or even, horror of horrors, the vampire bat. Biopharm, a new company which is rising from the ashes of an old British Steel plant in Swansea, believes that secretions from blood-sucking animals will be to heart-related diseases what penicillin has been to infective diseases. This may be unsettling news for some of the world's leading biotechnology companies. At this very moment, genetic engineering companies are racing each other to market with a new product, tissue plasminogen activator (t-PA), which can dissolve blood clots — and, hopefully, halt heart attacks in their tracks. Late last year the Californian company Genentech reported that doctors had given intravenous injections of t-PA to 49 patients who were in the midst of heart attacks caused by bloodclots blocking one of the coronary arteries. In 35 cases, the offending clot disappeared within the hour. But warns Biopharm managing director Dr Roy Sawyer, anyone who has worked with blood-sucking animals knows that tissue plasminogen activation is far from the last word in anti-coagulants.

Dr Sawyer, who has led expeditions to Amazonia and Borneo in search of new leech species, was the first scientist this century to find specimens of the world's largest leech, *Haementeria*. "If an animal goes in for sucking blood," he notes, "t-PA is almost the first thing it tries. Later on, it often develops better methods. So t-PA is far from the end of the story." Dr Sawyer first came across leeches in his native State of South Carolina, where visits to the swimming hole often resulted in encounters with these troublesome parasites. Leeches that attack man belong to the family Hirudinidae. Some species, including the European medicinal leech (*Hirudo medicinalis*), have been used therapeutically for centuries. Among the diseases which leeches were used to treat were mental illness, tumours, rheumatism, gout and whooping cough. A common treatment for headaches involved applying leeches to each temple and allowing them to draw blood. "They were the aspirin of the day," notes Dr Sawyer, who has spent 20 years studying leech biology. Today, the medical profession tends to dismiss the use of leeches as so much quackery, but scientists like

Dr Sawyer suspect that there was more than a grain of truth in the belief that leeches could have a useful therapeutic effect. Many leeches, for example, have become highly specialised so that they can profitably suck the blood of mammals. As a result, Dr Sawyer points out, "they have in their salivary glands a number of biologically active substances which are exquisitely adapted to mammalian physiology. In chemical terms, they are the mirror image of human physiology." And the biochemistry involved can be highly sophisticated. "Most people think that the leech only takes in red blood cells," says Dr Sawyer, "but it also takes in white blood cells. Some of those white blood cells produce fairly potent proteolytic enzymes. If the leech didn't have a mechanism for neutralising them, it would dissolve its own gut — because it may keep the blood in its crop for months." Once a hungry leech has fastened onto your skin, whether in the depths of the Amazon rain forest or when you plunge your hand into one of Biopharm's tanks, its three jaws of teeth make a Y-shaped incision in your flesh. You shouldn't feel a thing,

because the leech's saliva contains an anaesthetic. It also includes a vasodilator, which will enlarge the capillaries around the bite and increase the flow of blood. And, among other salivary wonders, each leech species has developed its own patent method for preventing your blood from clotting. Indeed, if you spot the leech and brush it off, your blood will often continue to flow freely until the leech's anti-coagulant is flushed out of the wound. The anti-coagulant Hirudin, extracted from the medicinal leech, is already widely used. And Hirudin, Dr Sawyer is convinced, is only the beginning. "There can be no doubt that there is enormous therapeutic potential in the substances we can extract from leeches," he says, "but the problem is one of supply. It is very difficult to get these things in pure form in any quantity. Literally thousands of leeches must be sacrificed to obtain small quantities of Hirudin. The first way around this is to breed leeches, which is why Biopharm has set up the world's first commercial leech farm." The second approach, and it is one which Biopharm is already exploring, involves

the use of genetic engineering techniques to persuade bacteria or yeasts to mass produce leech products which would otherwise be in critically short supply. "It turns out that all the substances that have been characterised in leech salivary glands are small peptides," Dr Sawyer reports, "made up of 40 to 70 amino acids, so they should lend themselves nicely to genetic engineering." The company is applying for patents on the substances it has extracted from *Haementeria* and other leeches. So far, however, Biopharm's main product are the live leech or its freeze-dried salivary glands. These are sold to neurophysiologists (who need to study the development of simple nervous systems) plastic surgeons (who use them to speed recovery after plastic surgery) and to medical researchers, some of which believe they have shown that leech secretions can help treat certain cancers. The leeches are also sold to schools, colleges, and universities for research purposes. But leeches are only the beginning, as far as Dr Sawyer is concerned. "We now know of at least nine different bio-

logically active substances found in the salivary glands of leeches," he says, "and we have only just started in this area. Later on, we shall be looking at a range of other blood-sucking animals, such as the flea, bed bug, the blood-sucking flies and even the vampire bat." Apart from finding the money he will need to steer such projects through toxicity tests and clinical trials, Dr Sawyer's main problem is likely to be in the publicity field. "The fact that we are working with blood-sucking animals is a built-in publicity factor," he admits, "but we have to be very careful: the last thing we want is to be seen as sensational and weird. We don't want headlines like 'The Vampire Farm'." However, with several major companies now exploring the possibility of joint ventures with Biopharm, it looks as though the leech, at least, has an assured place in the future pharmacy. John Elkington is Editor of *Biotechnology Bulletin* and Director of *Bioresources Ltd.* A full account of Biopharm's activities can be found in *Biotechnology Bulletin* Report 67.

John Elkington

Seven million leeches were used in London hospitals in 1863

HOMEOPATHISTS take heart: The Medicinal Leech, still sometimes used for blood letting in homeopathic medicine, is not extinct throughout Europe as claimed in 1981. It still occurs in the wild in at least 23 European countries according to the results of a comprehensive study of recent records by J. M. Elliott and P. A. Tullett. They obtained information for the 30 year period to 1982, mostly from unpublished records and from local natural history journals written in the language of the country concerned. In this way they amassed 206 records of leech localities in 118 twenty kilometre squares in Europe. The largest numbers of recorded localities were in Denmark (15), Hungary (17), Netherlands (15), Britain (18), Finland (27) and the USSR (33).

No records were obtained from Portugal and European Turkey, perhaps because the leech population. It has never been recorded in Iceland but Ireland is the only European country in which it has become extinct. The last records there date from the mid-1800s. In spite of considerable efforts to locate more records, only two medicinal leech localities were tracked down in France, in Normandy and in the Camargue. No records were found from Belgium, although they are unlikely not to be present because the animals found in its neighbouring countries and suitable habitat exists. In Britain, the medicinal leech has disappeared from some of its former localities, but has been recently recorded from some new ones. 18 records are distributed wide-

ly from the very north of Scotland to Anglesey, the Norfolk coast, and south to Hampshire. Great records are recent but at some locations it isn't known if populations are still present. The medicinal leech, *Hirudo medicinalis*, has been used for blood letting since several centuries BC. Its use is recorded in ancient Rome, Greece and China. The practice was at its peak in the mid 19th century. France imported between 10 and 37 million of them from 1827 to 1843. Seven million leeches were used in London hospitals alone during 1863. They were commonly used to "treat" mental illness, tumours, skin disease, gout and whooping cough. The selection of just one leech species, *H. medicinalis*, mainly green in colour with brown stripes and growing up to 10 centimetres in

length, was probably a pragmatic one. The horse leech — the largest of all — is of no use because it won't stick to human skin. The small leech — only two or three centimetres long — will stick but is too small to withdraw enough blood to be of practical use. The broad-tailed leech (4 cm) is generally unreliable in holding on to the skin. Today, the leech's use in conventional medicine is largely restricted to reducing haematomas, especially after plastic surgery. Its saliva contains substances which anaesthetise the wound area (so that no pain is felt when blood is drawn), dilate the surface blood vessels to increase the flow and act as an anticoagulant. Hirudin, extracted from the bodies of the medicinal leech, is used medically as a very effective blood anticoagulant. Leeches

are used regularly in homeopathic medicine. Elliott and Tullett's survey indicates clearly that the medicinal leech is far from being extinct in most of Europe as was concluded as recently as 1981. A current proposal to include the leech in the IUCN Invertebrate Red Data Book is based on this previous, erroneous assessment. But some populations may soon be classed as vulnerable, a term used to denote species likely to move into the endangered category in the near future. Leech horror stories abound. Oliver Goldsmith quotes a few in his *A History of the Earth and Animated Nature*. Relating a trip by a Dr Hoffmeister with Prince Waldemar of Prussia in Ceylon, Hoffmeister wrote: "We were obliged to have our horses led on before us,

which was not particularly agreeable where the blood streaming down their legs made us conscious of the abundance of these land leeches which are the true plague of Ceylon. Rain having fallen the previous day, millions of them had been lured out of their holes and were on the clothes and person of the travellers." "When dinner-time arrived I observed to my horror that my white trousers were streaked with blood. I actually found several hundreds of them clinging to my legs; they had penetrated through my trousers. I freed myself by means of the established recipe of lemon juice of these unwelcome guests." Reference: *Biological Conservation*, 29 (1984): 15-26.

Malcolm Smith

The message in a tub of natural yogurt

After the antibiotic, a future for the probiotic. Roy Fuller reflects on the farmer and the lessons of bacteria

THE THOUGHT of eating millions of live bacteria is totally abhorrent to most people and yet we do it every day: foods like yogurt and cheese are fermented products which contain large populations of living bacteria. Indeed, it has been claimed that the beneficial effects of yogurt are dependent on the presence of living bacteria and the lables of some yogurts proclaim that they are "live" to emphasise the point. Most yogurts contain live bacteria, although it is true that some have more than others. Whether the beneficial effects of yogurt are real and, if so, whether they are related to the presence of living bacterial cells is a matter of conjecture. Nevertheless, the health-giving properties of yogurt persist, thanks mainly to Eli Metchnikoff who, in the early part of this century, discovered that Bulgarian peasants lived to a ripe old age and also drank large quantities of fermented milk.

That the two observations were related he had no doubt but in the intervening years little good experimental evidence has emerged to support this contention. His theories have spawned attempts to produce new bacterial products which will beneficially influence man and other animals. The word "probiotic" was coined to describe these food supplements which contain living bacteria. It is derived from the Greek words meaning "for life" — contrast to the word "antibiotic" which means "against life". Paradoxically the probiotic effect of an organism may be dependent on its antibiotic activity. Thus the ability of probiotic organisms to stimulate the growth of farm animals may be a result of their killing off the micro-organisms which depress the growth of these animals.

Modern trends have been towards the use of bacteria isolated from the species of animal for which the supplement is intended. It is felt that this will ensure that the bacteria are able to grow in the gut and exert their effect. This is seen as an improvement over traditional yogurt which contains bacteria unable to grow in the intestine. When choosing organisms for such dietary supplements attention should be paid to factors known to be important in respect of such characteristics as the ability to adhere to the gut wall so that the organism can grow to large numbers before it is moved on with the food, and the ability to resist the acidity of the stomach as a desirable trait.

Even with these preparations, where growth in the gut is assured, the ingestion of substances produced by the bacteria may be a contributing factor in the effect on the consumer. The active substance produced in the gut may be limited by conditions in the intestine and the ingestion of more of the same product which has been formed during the fermentation outside the body may be the only way of increasing the active concentration. Our recent work shows that the suppression of bacteria in the baby pig gut by yogurt is mainly due to the ingestion of lactic acid present in the fermented milk. The type of organism chosen as a supplement will depend on the effect required. Already there are on the market many different types of probiotic based on different bacteria such as *Lactobacillus*, *Bifidobacterium* and *Streptococcus*. As well as stimulating growth there are bacterial supplements on the market which protect against disease and improve egg production in poultry. They therefore operate in the area in which

antibiotics have been used in the past. Antibiotics as growth stimulants for farm animals have had a bad press in recent times following the publication of the Swann Committee report and the highlighting of the dangers which result from the increasing number of antibiotic resistant strains which this practice produces.

Consequently antibiotics which are used therapeutically cannot now be used as growth promoters. The replacing of antibacterial agents with probiotic supplements would remove the danger of antibiotic resistance. They are also cheaper to produce and, since they are natural inhabitants of the gut, are unlikely to have an adverse effect. Their other advantage is that it may not be necessary to feed them continuously: the administration of bacteria for the first few weeks of life may be sufficient to establish them permanently in the gut.

In rats we found that we could suppress the growth of one organism (*Escherichia coli*) by dosing new-born rats with a suspension of another (*Lactobacillus salivarius*) isolated from an adult rat. It seems likely that probiotic supplements will have their greatest potential in the new-born animal when the bacteria in the gut are still settling down. In the adult animal where a stable bacterial population is already present there is no room for the establishment of new bacteria and none of those bacteria already established in the gut are likely to be displaced. In this situation the ingestion of substances already produced by the bacteria and present in the supplement may have more influence.

In what areas are these supplements likely to be important? There is now increasing evidence for believing that the intestinal bacteria have a protective role and that their transfer from mother to offspring is important. The current obsession with hygiene may block this transfer and make the young animal more susceptible to disease. Human premature babies maintained in isolation are in this position with little opportunity to acquire bacteria from their mothers. They may benefit from probiotic treatments. A similar deprivation occurs to chickens reared in incubators. In isolation from their mothers they are known to be more susceptible than adult chickens to colonisation of the gut by the food poisoning organism *Salmonella*. This susceptibility is made worse by the absence of growth stimulating antibiotics which suppress the protective bacteria. When the bacteria responsible for the protection have been identified, a probiotic will appear on the market.

Another promising area where bacterial supplements appear to have potential is in the field of colon cancer. Recent work in the United States has shown that supplements of an intestinal bacterium (*Lactobacillus acidophilus*) will reduce the concentration of gut enzymes which are known to be associated with colon cancer. Another probiotic which can be envisaged is that which will provide protection against an inflammatory disease of the lower gut which sometimes follows antibiotic treatment of human patients.

The acceptance of these bacterial supplements by animals will present no problems but could we be persuaded to eat them? We already accept microbial products such as vinegar, wine, and bread as useful, tasty, nutritious foods; what we are likely to see in the near future is the increased use of live supplements of bacteria originating from the healthy intestinal tract. The reaction of the human consumer to such supplements will be interesting to see but if the health benefits can be substantiated the acceptance, as it has been with bran, will be assured.

Roy Fuller is at the National Institute for Research in Dairying at Shinfield, Reading

Catastrophe on ice First soundings show that most Britons favour a worldwide freeze on nuclear weapons. Andy Haines reports

IN THE US the Freeze movement, campaigning specifically for a bilateral US-USSR nuclear weapons standstill, is growing in size and vigour. The freeze unexpectedly optimistic view of the participants at the US Nuclear Weapons Freeze campaign, in St Louis, Missouri, was the largest ever held. It reaffirmed the determination of supporters throughout the US and in spite of the Reagan victory, to work for a comprehensive programme that includes a campaign for the suspension of funds for the testing, production and deployment of nuclear weapons and delivery systems. In a world in which neither the disarmament movement nor arms negotiations have resulted in the dismantling of a single nuclear weapon or in any significant halt to where the debate has become artificially polarised, the freeze movement is important. It distinguishes between those with a genuine concern

for disarmament and those who use disarmament arguments in the pursuit of nuclear rearmament. There are several reasons for the unexpectedly optimistic view of the participants at the US freeze convention. The results of the election were not as bad as many had feared in terms of freeze support in Congress. The House of Representatives is still securely Democratic and two new pro-freeze Senators were elected. In 1986 the next round of elections will see a preponderance of freeze opponents up for re-election in the Senate. They will be under great pressure at a time when Reagan will be seen as a lame duck president — he will have only two years of his term left to run and no possibility of re-election. In the UN at the end of 1983, 124 governments supported a proposal for a bilateral US-USSR freeze. Earlier voting had suggested a similar level of support for a global freeze

The 13 countries who voted against the proposal were all Western. Nevertheless there is evidence that support for continuing the nuclear arms race is beginning to erode in the West. The New Zealand government has taken an uncompromising stand against the use of its ports by nuclear powered or armed vessels; two members of Nato, Denmark and Greece voted in the UN in favour of a freeze while Iceland, the Netherlands, Norway, Australia and Spain abstained. Australia has recently promoted a comprehensive nuclear test ban. Before long the serious supporters of a continuation of the nuclear arms race may have to make a choice between nuclear rearmament and Western unity. In the UK, the nuclear weapons freeze movement is in the process of rapid development as a broad grouping of organisations and individual supporters.

The British Government, despite its protestations, shows little evidence of any real commitment to multilateral nuclear disarmament. It has not taken part directly in any negotiations on nuclear weapons since 1980 when discussions on a comprehensive test ban treaty were broken off. With France it refused to allow its nuclear weapons to be counted in the intermediate nuclear forces (INF) negotiations whose breakdown last year was followed by Pershing II and cruise missile deployments. A MORI poll in September 1983 indicated 81 per cent support in a sample of the UK public for a worldwide freeze. A Gallup poll last May showed 78 per cent support for a freeze. On this occasion the question included a reference to USSR support for a UN freeze motion. This did not appear to effect public support. The British freeze move-

ment is taking its own soundings of public opinion by means of a rolling referendum around the UK. The poll phase which took place in Bristol in December, a demographically representative ward, Bishopston, was balloted on a door-to-door basis. Of those contacted 71 per cent (3,946) returned ballot papers and 83 per cent of these (3,297) indicated support for a worldwide freeze. The new negotiations between the US and USSR make the freeze even more relevant. Negotiations without a freeze are doomed to be overtaken by the pace of weapons development — indeed some may see this as a positive attribute — a way of continuing the arms race whilst appearing to control it. Advances in technology mean that a freeze can probably be more accurately verified than the various proposals put forward by the West in recent negotiations.

The nuclear nations have violated their undertakings in the non proliferation treaty (NPT) in which, some 15 years ago, they undertook to "pursue negotiations in good faith to halt the nuclear arms race at an early date." The NPT is due for review by the signatories (some 120 nations) in September. A freeze could help stop both vertical and horizontal proliferation. A conference to bring together representatives of non nuclear governments and representatives of groups supporting a freeze is being planned by the UK Nuclear Weapons Freeze and the US Freeze Campaign to precede immediately the review conference. Of course a freeze is not in itself the ultimate answer to nuclear weapons. It is only the first step toward a more secure world. Pressure would have to continue until deep cuts in nuclear arms were attained.

If the British Government were committed to multilateral disarmament it could take important steps. It could support the call for a comprehensive test ban treaty (CTBT) — a major part of the freeze. The call for a CTBT is supported by around 130 organisations around the world co-ordinated by the Washington based Center for Defense Information. It could also support the freeze in the UN and back any serious initiatives toward a moratorium on the testing, production and development of nuclear weapons by the great powers, with a clear understanding that other nations — nuclear or not — should follow suit. The signing of the partial test ban treaty in 1963 resulted from such an initiative on above ground nuclear testing by the US. Such a moratorium could be accompanied by a call to the two superpowers to negotiate reductions against the

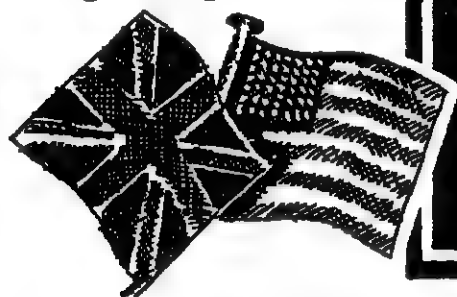
background of a freeze. The other two acknowledged nuclear powers, China and France, would then be under great pressure to follow. Opposition of the British Government to US plans for space-based missile defence may present an important opportunity for common ground with supporters of the freeze. Whatever happens about Star Wars, we must ensure that a government backed by about 40 per cent of voters does not ignore a world-transforming proposal supported by 80 per cent of the people. Information about the freeze movement in Britain and elsewhere can be obtained from Nuclear Weapons Freeze Clearing House, 851 Clonson Street, Bristol BS1 5BB. Dr Andy Haines is a member of International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War and a member of the steering group of the UK Nuclear Weapons Freeze.

Wed like to introduce you to one of the most exciting and thoroughly rewarding professional training programmes that computer-minded graduates are ever likely to encounter.



It's called the Systems Engineering Development Programme, SED for short.

But first let's tell you about EDS: Electronic Data Systems has stood at the forefront of information processing technology for 22 years. Founded as a US company, we currently employ over 25,000 people worldwide and we are growing.



As one of the largest users of IBM equipment, with a network of over 70,000 interactive terminals, we're rapidly expanding our processing services across the globe.

One of the countries in which we're committed to long-term future growth is the UK.

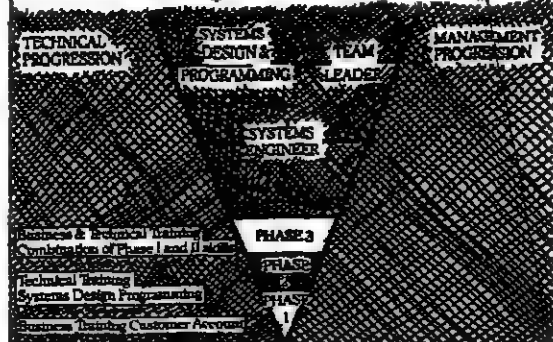


We're looking for a handful of very special people – exceptional young men and women who possess solid communication skills and are looking to go much further. The ideal candidates will be graduates with Applied Sciences or Business Studies, will have attended courses in data processing, or have data processing work experience.

We're offering a training opportunity that is regarded as the most comprehensive grounding available anywhere in the industry.

To prepare you for a rewarding career within the

On successful completion of the Programme, you'll know a lot about your chosen profession and we'll know a lot about you. In short, you'll have launched your career in a way that few, if any, have ever been able to do before. You'll be in a position to move ahead as a Systems Engineer with EDS as your aspirations and ability allow.



FOR TWO MINUTES OF YOUR UNDIVIDED ATTENTION, WE COULD WELL GIVE YOU 18 MONTHS OF OURS.

If you aim to be a fully rounded professional with unlimited potential for future achievement, it's a challenge you'll certainly welcome.

All of these appointments are accompanied by an excellent salary and benefits package.

Now that we've taken a few minutes of your time, allow us a few minutes more.

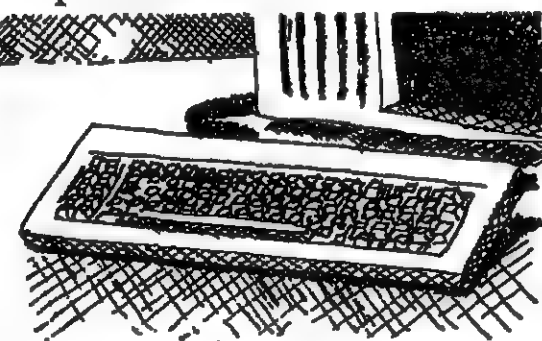


Write enclosing a comprehensive c.v. to Brian Reynell at EDS, Recruiting Department, Devonshire House, Mayfair Place, London W1X 5FH.

EDS

Electronic Data Systems

Company the SED Training Scheme is a 3-phase programme emphasising customer orientation, technical instruction and practical experience.



Over an 18 month period, there will be a combination of on-the-job training and classroom lectures.

Computer Professionals

A chance to program your own first-class future...

...with Kellogg's, the market leader in the highly competitive field of ready-to-eat cereals. It's a position that has been achieved and maintained through constant investment in new products and the very latest technology for our manufacturing processes – which really are among the most advanced in industry today.

Senior Technical Analyst

Based at our purpose-built factory site at Wrexham, you'll provide support for all computer requirements – specifying and installing enhancements to systems covering all aspects of plant operations. Ensuring these and existing IBM Personal Computers are integrated into central facilities, on an ICL VME service, will be another part of your brief as you'll day-to-day control of the VAX based MIS, involved in highly automated production and warehousing.

You should be 25 or over, with 'A' levels and ideally a numerate degree. A qualification such as MBACS would be useful. Practical experience in as many of the following as possible will be needed: VAX/VMS, Fortran, ICL VME, Cobol, IBM Personal Computers, Communications and Computerised Automation. You should also have a wide, up-to-date technical knowledge, considerable self-motivation, initiative and well developed interpersonal skills.

Senior Programmers

Based at our Manchester Head Office, you will be a member of a Project Team and design, write, document and implement programs within target schedules. You will work on 2-3 projects simultaneously across a wide range of applications, at any site and across any functional discipline from commercial through to technical applications. In addition, there is internal computer development committed to getting the VME and DRS Systems operational.

You will be 20-30, with 'A' levels and 2-3 years programming experience in ICL Cobol. Knowledge of VME, DRS, IBM PC micro systems would be useful. You will also require considerable self-motivation and initiative to work from a minimal brief, and to become an effective member of the team immediately after joining.

Applicants, male or female can expect attractive salaries and an excellent range of fringe benefits, including relocation expenses to the Wrexham or Manchester area where applicable. Career prospects within the Company are excellent.

Are you looking to optimise your technical and personal skills with this leading Company? Then ring Kate Howsley for a general discussion on the work and your career prospects, or write to her with full career details.

Kellogg's

© 1985 Kellogg Company

The Staff Personnel Department,
Kellogg Company of Great Britain Limited,
Park Road, Salford,
Manchester M32 6RA.
Tel: 061-855 4411.

Research Opportunities in Government Departments

Social Science Research Home Office

... to assist in conducting policy oriented research, commissioning work in universities and other research centres; and providing a comprehensive service of advice in the social sciences.

especially criminology. 1 Research Officer, London, and possibly 1 Research Officer (period appointment for 1 year) London.

Departments of the Environment and Transport

... to carry out policy-related projects within the housing research programme. The scope of the work covers all housing issues: housing management in the public sector and housing needs of the elderly and homeless. One post is in the housing management division. Up to 4 Senior Research/Research Officers, London.

Building Research Establishment. ... to join a small multi-disciplinary team carrying out a programme of research application. This work integrates selected findings from scientific and technical research into actual designs and construction. 1 Senior Research/Research Officer, Garston, Watford (period appointment for 3 years).

Manpower Services Commission

... to join the Psychological Research Section providing services for operating divisions, including technical advice on research programmes and

projects, management of external and in-house projects. 1 Research Officer, Sheffield.

Resources and Planning Research Departments of the Environment and Transport

... to contribute to the analysis, formulation and monitoring of departmental policies, including work on the planning system of inner cities, urban and

economic initiatives and land use issues; housing and transport fields. Up to 8 Senior Research Officers, London and possibly Birmingham and Bristol.

Development Commission

... to assist in the development and improvement of the Commission's data base on social and economic developments in rural England, collecting and analysing economic, planning and other data on rural

lands. 1 Research Officer, London. ADDITIONAL VACANCIES MAY ARISE IN THESE AND OTHER DEPARTMENTS

Candidates for all RO posts should normally have a degree with 1st or upper 2nd class honours (where divided), or a post-graduate degree, in a relevant subject. Exceptionally, others with experience of special value also considered.

For SRO posts, a degree with 1st or 2nd class honours, or a post-graduate degree in a relevant subject is essential together with significant post-graduate research experience (normally at least 3 years).

Further details on application. The Civil Service is an equal opportunity employer

period appointment posts may be extended or become permanent posts.

SALARY: SRO £3500-£11,926; RO £6015-£8735 Up to £1300 more in London. Starting salary may be above the minimum. Promotion prospects.

For full details and an application form (to be returned by 22 March 1985) write to Civil Service Commission, Alencon Link, Basingstoke, Hants RG21 1JB, or telephone Basingstoke (0256) 468551 (answering service operates outside office hours). Please quote ref: G(2)652.

A'LEVELS OR DEGREE FUTURE IN COMPUTING?

Do you know that the Civil Service is the country's largest user of computers, with over 300 installations in the UK? That it has systems, large and small, using the latest and most sophisticated technology? Do you know that these resources help make our training schemes in this discipline respected for their excellence?

As an Executive Officer, specialising in computers, you'll soon discover the benefits of your chosen career.

There's the challenge of being involved in work of national importance. There's the variety only the wide-ranging environment of the Civil Service can offer.

Want to know more? If you have two 'A' levels – or an equivalent (including overseas) or higher qualification – and are under 45, fill in the coupon and send it to the Civil Service Commission, Alencon Link, Basingstoke, Hants RG21 1JB or telephone Basingstoke (0256) 468551 (answering service operates outside office hours). Please quote ref: E/638/12.

(Former civil servants interested in reinstatement should write to their last employing department giving details of their past service.)

The Civil Service is an equal opportunity employer

I am applying for a post as Trainee Computer Programmer (E/638/12).

Name

Address

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE AT EDINBURGH Director for Industrial Applications

At the heart of Scotland's Silicon Glen is Edinburgh University's recently formed AI Applications Institute, working closely alongside the only university based AI Department in the UK.

The appointment of a Director offers a tremendous opportunity for someone with a strong technical background in software development in either higher education or industry. Ideally this should be coupled with experience in marketing software in a commercial environment, probably gained in a software house or a computer hardware company.

The institute will be self-financing, its prime sources of income being contract research and sponsorship by industry. Existing staff of two assistant directors and nine technical staff will be expanded as the business develops.

The post carries a salary within a professional range (average £21,235) and is supernumerary.

Further particulars may be obtained from: The Secretary to the University, University of Edinburgh, Old College, South Bridge, EDINBURGH EH8 9YL, to whom applications, including the names of two referees, should be submitted by 31 March 1985. Please quote reference No. 28/85.

UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH

URGENTLY REQUIRED

A very well known mechanical contractor and steel fabrication company requires No. 1

Mechanical Design Engineer

minimum 10 years' experience in oil field activities, ie pipework, pressure vessels, storage tanks and heavy steel structures in accordance to BS and ASME standard. Ability to produce the necessary workshop fabrication DRGS, bill of quantity and cost estimate if required.

Salary UAE currency DH 7000/ – plus furnished flat plus free transportation. Send cv to: The General Manager, PO Box 2821, Abu Dhabi, UAE. Tel 554500; or for direct interview: Mr E. N. Haws, Holiday Inn, Marble Arch, London (15th, 18th & 19th March), showing cv plus any sample DRG.

Computing for Industrial R&D

SOLIHULL

up to £11,645

The British Gas Midlands Research Station is concerned with all aspects of industrial and commercial gas usage, the development of processes for the manufacture of substitute natural gas and the safe operation of gas transmission and storage systems.

The Mathematics and Computing Services Section provides support for a range of theoretical studies associated with all areas of the research station's work.

A keen Mathematician/Scientist is required to strengthen the team which supports a computing facility used by over 130 graduate scientific and engineering staff. The computing facilities consist of a local DEC Vax 11/780 minicomputer with communications links to remote IBM & ICL mainframes, the main programming language being Fortran. The responsibilities of the team include the maintenance of the computing facility, advice and training in the use of the local minicomputer and the provision of specialist advice and development in the areas of numerical analysis and graphics.

Applicants should possess a First or Second Class Honours Degree in Mathematics, Computer Science, Physics or Engineering. We would also welcome applications from students graduating this summer.

Salary will be in a range up to £11,645 depending upon age and experience. Benefits are those normally associated with a large progressive organisation, including relocation if necessary. Please write for an application form, quoting ref. no. MRS 523 to: Senior Personnel Officer, British Gas Corporation, Research and Development Division, Midlands Research Station, Wharf Lane, Solihull, West Midlands B91 2JW.

BRITISH GAS

Keith Devlin on why eating spaghetti is good for computers

Food for thought

INCREASINGLY, computers are being connected together to form networks. This creates problems which can be very difficult to solve for the mathematician. A classic example is the Dining Philosophers Problem, formulated by the Dutch computer scientist Edsger Dijkstra.

Imagine a group of philosophers sitting round a table at a restaurant. In the centre of the table is a large plate of spaghetti. Between each pair of philosophers is a fork. Most of the time the philosophers are talking and thinking (as philosophers do), but from time to time one or more of them feels hungry and wants to take a helping of spaghetti. Now, it takes two forks to serve yourself from the bowl, so the hungry philosopher must pick up both of the forks adjacent to him. If either of these two forks is being used, it is impossible to get any spaghetti at that moment.

Now suppose that at some stage in the proceedings, all of the philosophers want to eat at the same time. Being rational beings, capable of performing only one action at a time in a serial fashion (philosophers get like that after a while), they each reach first of all for the fork on their right and pick it up. So far so good. Now they turn to their left for the second fork, and what do they find? Someone else has got there first. Stalemate.

Being terribly egalitarian and rational, each one waits patiently for the second fork to become available. Which never occurs, of course. The result is that the entire group of philosophers slowly starves to death.

Ignoring for the moment the rumour that this scenario was carefully considered by the Cabinet following the rejection by Oxford University of an honorary degree for Mrs Thatcher a few weeks ago, what has Dijkstra's problem got to do with computer networks? Suppose that instead of philosophers sitting round a table you have a collection of computers, connected together in the form of a ring with each one connected to its two neighbours. Most of the time each computer sits quietly with its own tasks, but occasionally it is necessary for one to communicate with one or both of its neighbours.

The problem arises, however, when you want a computer to do as to avoid a stalemate situation arising as with the starving philosophers? Whatever you may think of philosophers, they are, by and large, more enterprising than your average computer, which will happily spend the rest of its life waiting for an event which will never happen, unless the careful programmer foresees that such a situation might arise and guards against it.

One obvious solution would be to designate one computer the "boss" and let it make all decisions about when two others can communicate. This solution is often adopted in the construction of networks. But what if, as with the philosophers, each computer is to be on equal terms with all the others? The problem of avoiding deadlock is now an extremely difficult one, and was only solved fairly recently.

The solution, found by Michael Rabin and Daniel Lehmann of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, is an example of what is known as the Monte Carlo method, which depends for its success on probability theory. Imagine the philosophers again.

When one of them feels hungry, he randomly chooses between the left fork and the right one. (This has to be a "truly random choice"; if there is any rhyme or reason behind the choice the method will not succeed in avoiding a stalemate). Having chosen a fork, say the right one, the philosopher waits for this one to become available. He could continue talking and thinking, of course, so this waiting time need not be lost.)

As soon as the right fork becomes available, the philosopher picks it up and then looks for the other one, the left one in this case. If it is available, he picks it up and eats. If it is not, he immediately puts down his existing fork and starts the whole process again from the beginning, once more making a random choice of direction.

Looked at from the point of view of the individual philosopher, starting again when you seem to be half-way there looks like a retrograde step, of course, but from the point of view of the entire group this is by far the best way to proceed. For Rabin and Lehmann have proved that if this procedure is followed, a stalemate will not arise. By extending the procedure, they can also show that no one will starve, i.e. provided they wait long enough, each person will eventually get to eat. The mathematics involved here is by no means trivial, though the procedure itself is relatively simple to implement.

The Monte Carlo solution to the Dining Philosophers Problem is just one example of an increasing use of statistics methods in computer science and mathematics, and to some extent is a consequence of the increasing complexity of computers and the need to which they are put.



Professor Norman Gower: course teams are queuing up for computers. Picture by Garry Weaver

The Open University has everything ready for the IT revolution except money, writes John Keeble

An open market

THE RAPID growth in computer development and penetration has brought the Open University, the world's first multi-media distance learning organisation, to the brink of a teaching revolution. It is poised for a carefully calculated leap into the promised land of wired-up learning but finds itself hobbled by the shortage of money.

The university's charter requires it to make use of new technology to assist learning and, along with other developments like audio-visual devices, computers have been used in learning since its first courses began in 1971.

During that time, the OU's 250 terminals, located in its regional study centres and linked to its mainframe for specific learning applications, have remained largely the same despite the software revolution in the intervening years.

"We are now looking to the future," said Professor Norman Gower, the recently appointed Deputy Vice-Chancellor with responsibility for co-ordinating strategic planning and for the use and development of new technology. "We shall never become the faceless electronic university but computers will be able to play a very large part."

The OU's efforts, while co-ordinated and linked, split into two: the undergraduate programme with about 66,000 students and its Continuing Education programme of courses and study packs tailored to the needs of individual learners, including computing.

Both sections see the need for extending the use of computers in teaching, for assimilating the impact of

computers on many subjects and for the use of computer links to simplify administration.

Staff at the OU's Milton Keynes headquarters are in the throes of selecting an OU computer for the day when it can offer a sufficiently extensive range of computer-assisted courses to encourage the widespread purchase of computers by students. The prospect of large stocks of university-owned computers looks poor with Government financial cuts biting into current activities and the gloomy predictions for coming years, although this is a possibility being considered. It has built its own computer, the current model called Hektor III, for some courses but the student or sponsoring employer has to buy it.

Acorn and Sinclair are eager to get the OU stamp and the university is also talking to other manufacturers, not least because the manufacturers are constantly asking the university to help with various projects.

Unfortunately, while the OU can show that its students are going places and likely to have the kind of friends who would buy computers, none of the firms has felt like cranking the sun over the technology horizon by giving the OU the first 2,000 machines.

The way forward could come from the enthusiasm with which people in Britain have taken to the home computer. There are quite a lot of machines lying around waiting for something worthwhile to do. The market is divided into two main categories: ordinary users, who buy ready-written applications, and "power users," who buy programmable tools.

The phrase "power user" has already entered the jargon in America, where it has appeared on the cover and in headlines in the most influential trade journal, InfoWorld. In fact a recent letter to the editor complained because "power user" was used 16 times in a single article.

"Power users" are the same as "hackers" in that they really understand the system, they are not just consumers. The difference is that whereas hackers did the same things partly for the joy of knowledge, power users apply their talents for profit, to customise their business applications. Thus they are wringing unprecedented power out of micros.

This development can perhaps be illustrated by analogy with the transport industry around 1913, where mainframe computers are the railway system and micros equate to the (then five year old) Ford Model T.

For all their success in corporate computing, mainframes have failed to deliver what individual users want. You can get an application implemented, but it costs a fortune and takes years — much like getting the railway company to lay new track between two unconnected towns. Even if this is done, the application never actually does what you want — it goes from town to town when they (the high priests of data processing) want, not from door to door when you want.

By comparison the micro offers you, the end user, your own car. It might break down or run out of petrol, and you

may either crash or get lost — and the first course assisted will be offered in a year's time — the prospects are exciting. The benefits in administration, as vital as it is boring, is a substantial bonus for the student of the future who may never have to put pen to paper form again and for the cost-conscious university where setting and marking just one Tutor Marked Assignment on a foundation course can cost tens of thousands of pounds. But improvement of "the learning environment" is the main target.

Teaching in the decades ahead could offer the prospect of networks linking students, tutors and the university's mainframe, and, additionally, a network of course specialists to answer questions from students and non-specialist tutors. Since the equipment needed would include a modem, students could have the option of using it for research in the world's databases.

The computer-assisted courses being offered in 1986 are third-level undergraduate studies in Cognitive Psychology and a Software Engineering module in the Continuing Education programme with the Science and Engineering Research Council (SERC). The psychology students will be using mainframe terminals and micros to examine and construct artificial intelligence models and the SERC module fits into the industrial updating programme, Hektor III, with its 64K ram, 64K ram and modem (but no Base) is sold to industrial students and firms for £235, with optional extras like cassettes.

In 1987 about 2,000 students will be working on computer-assisted courses. "I have

course teams queuing up," said Professor Gower. Not surprisingly, technology teams are making their bids but, less obviously, arts teams see the possibilities and one probability is a German language course.

More than 49,000 applied for 1985 foundation courses — the necessary first step before higher level studies — and only 18,800 could be accepted, including 8,000 who had waited from original applications in 1983. This is expected to result in about 17,000 waiting the year to get 1986 courses. (The OU's Continuing Education programme is not affected because each course is self-financing.)

For students who have completed at least one foundation course, the computing courses are tempting. Computing & Computers offers theoretical and practical studies in program design and computer usage; Introductory Electronics teaches digital and analogue electronic theory and practice and The Digital Computer (which has a computer supplied) gives an understanding of computers, software and how they link to other devices.

Nearly 5,000 students are being accepted in 1986 for these three courses and nearly 4,000 are being turned away because of the lack of resources. Some will have waited three years to get a place before they can finally begin.

At the same time, the OU is being bombarded with demands from industry and commerce to upgrade and expand technology-related specialist areas. "There is a shortage of expertise in information Technology and distance learning can take

academic experience to limit the number of students," said Professor Gower.

Much recent expansion has been in collaborative schemes between the OU and professions from industrial, commercial and State employers.

While these courses would not necessarily be regarded as cheap by individuals not being sponsored by employers, they can offer a quick way into specialist areas for those seeking to expand their knowledge and possibly their careers. Microprocessors and Product Design at £225, for example, might not be just what you have been seeking. But Introductory Digital Electronics might be worthwhile if you have some knowledge of analogue electronics and £25 to spare. Software Engineering, at £250, would need a professional reason to buy it but Cobol data processing could give your career a spark for as little as £25.

About 50,000 people study with Continuing Education courses or packs in a year, perhaps more because many employers buy course packs which can be used by many staff. They include government departments, health and education authorities, industry and commerce. A recent survey suggested that on average packs are used by five students each.

"What is interesting is that we are grappling with all the IT problems at once," said Professor Gower. Conversion to the electronic office, the effect on printing, the impact on subjects and the use of IT in new teaching methods are simultaneous considerations. "We need investment and the outcome of the IT changes will be critical to the OU," he added.

Springing a leak in the system

Low-tech equipment costing about £100 could lay bare an expensive computer's secrets. Jonathan Drori reports

THE BBC's Tomorrow's World programme recently showed how discreetly easy it is to eavesdrop on a computer terminal. Discreetly parked, a small van contained all the equipment necessary to receive and decode the stray electrical energy from a word-processor several hundred feet away in a large office block.

There was nothing unusual about either the word-processor or the building. The same van picked up usable information from buildings all over London. Perfectly readable information was obtained at a considerable distance from a well-known merchant bank and the buildings of another television company were found to be broadcasting far more than they realised.

Any radio ham will confirm the severe interference to his rig caused by nearby computer equipment. This interference is not a meaningless jumble of noise, but can be decoded in several ways. The method demonstrated on the programme cost less than £100 and is simple, both in principle and in practice. The idea is to read the information, electronically, directly from the screen itself.

The video signal conveying data to the screen is of two parts. First and most obvious is the picture itself, that is, the data which the eavesdropper is trying to read. Second, but just as important, is synchronising information. Without it, the picture would be a senseless mess indistinguishable from the background snow (what you see if you tune your television away from a station).

Replicas of the part of the signal carrying picture information can often be radiated at very high frequencies. These spurious harmonics, as luck would have it, can be decoded and displayed using an ordinary television (£80), with a good antenna (£20). For several reasons, the synchronising signals cannot be received over any great distance. However, minor modification to the television and a small box of components worth £20 can regenerate these.

That anyone with the necessary knowhow can read information from a remote VDU has implications that computer manufacturers and users are only just realising.

Not only could there be acute embarrassment to the

likes of banks and accountants; not only are there huge commercial losses to be made, as a result of leaked information; there's worse. The 1984 Data Protection Act requires that "appropriate security measures shall be taken against unauthorised access to personal data."

Furthermore, the directors of a company not taking adequate precautions to protect its personal files, are themselves liable to prosecution. Just what are "appropriate security measures" anyway? Doubts in this area have alarmed the head of data processing in at least one major London hospital whose patient records are stored on a computer data bank. This information is regularly accessed via terminals which may well be grossly insecure and claims for damages could be significant. Test cases are awaited with interest.

Cheap screening methods sufficient to foil the amateur would be unlikely to deter the determined professional with sophisticated equipment and perhaps the resources of a government at his disposal. In order that no one should be able to glean information from a remote VDU, the radio frequency shielding must be exceptionally good.

The Nato standard for such screening has the codeword "Tempest" and its precise details are highly classified. The reason is that an enemy knowing where the chinks in one's armour will devote his attentions to those weak spots and form a breach more quickly.

In general terms, though, a metal casing for the equipment would be required with a fine metal mesh over the screen. The signal on all external cables would have to be filtered and the design would have to be accepted by an accredited Tempest testing house. All this is very expensive.

The military installations and government departments like GCHQ, which must have secure equipment, will pay whatever it costs. So must the few large companies who are contracted to do sensitive work for them. A director of one of these electronic giants made a startling confession. His estimate of the cost of equipment necessary for eavesdropping was more than a thousand times greater than the £100 actually required. Several of these multi-nationals are now seriously reviewing their data security arrangements.

However, the vast majority of computer users, who were only confronted with the problem two weeks ago, must now decide just how much of an investment in shielding is necessary.

Amid the panic, one sector is rubbing its hands in gleeful anticipation. Companies in the electro-magnetic screening business look set for a busy year.

Jack Schofield on the challenge of the empty screen and new moves in the power game

Fill in the blanks

WHAT DO ALL the world's most successful software packages have in common? If success means sales, the best sellers are Microsoft Basic, CP/M, MS-DOS, VisiCalc, Lotus 1-2-3, WordStar and dBase II. What they have in common is that they are all programmable.

When you load them into a micro, they don't actually do anything. They are simply OK and Ready. CP/M and MS-DOS provide the less helpful prompt "A>," while VisiCalc and Lotus present mainly a screenful of empty cells.

What the word processor, at least offers a menu to help you get started, but in essence it's the equivalent of a blank sheet of paper. What happens next is up to you.

The value of all these packages is precisely that they are tools which users can program for their own purposes. Basic is obviously designed for programming — it's a language. The programmable nature of VisiCalc and Lotus 1-2-3 is less obvious, but the point is that they are tools for formulating and manipulating figures, or groups of figures, and so produce the answers you need. The relationships may be hidden but if they were not there the spreadsheets would have no useful function.

CP/M and MS-DOS are not very sophisticated as programmable tools, but they provide facilities like line editors, assemblers, copying routines and processing utilities such as Submit (in CP/M) and the batch files in MS-DOS and PC-DOS.

With MS-DOS you can, for example, set up a file called Autoexec. Bat to clear the screen and present a menu of options, then call other .Bat files to run particular programs. And so on.

dBase II has become the world's leading microcomputer database mainly because it has built into it, the most powerful database programming language. WordStar, similarly, is the most programmable word processor, allowing a high degree of control through the use of "dot" commands.

Nowadays it is fashionable to play down the programming aspect of computing. Micros are meant to be instantly usable by anyone, without previous knowledge or study. Insofar as this is applied to Basic, it is largely

true. The day when users could be expected to write their own accounts packages or special applications programs is long gone. It is a waste of time.

However, programming has not disappeared. It has merely moved to a higher plane. Instead of Basic, more powerful applications "languages" are used — batch-files in PC-DOS, "macros" in Lotus 1-2-3, "macros" in WordStar, and the "macros" in Ashton-Tate's Framework, and so on.

As micros are bought by more and more people who are happily innocent of these facts, the market is dividing into two separate categories — ordinary users, who buy ready-written applications, and "power users," who buy programmable tools.

The phrase "power user" has already entered the jargon in America, where it has appeared on the cover and in headlines in the most influential trade journal, InfoWorld. In fact a recent letter to the editor complained because "power user" was used 16 times in a single article.

"Power users" are the same as "hackers" in that they really understand the system, they are not just consumers. The difference is that whereas hackers did the same things partly for the joy of knowledge, power users apply their talents for profit, to customise their business applications. Thus they are wringing unprecedented power out of micros.

This development can perhaps be illustrated by analogy with the transport industry around 1913, where mainframe computers are the railway system and micros equate to the (then five year old) Ford Model T.

For all their success in corporate computing, mainframes have failed to deliver what individual users want. You can get an application implemented, but it costs a fortune and takes years — much like getting the railway company to lay new track between two unconnected towns. Even if this is done, the application never actually does what you want — it goes from town to town when they (the high priests of data processing) want, not from door to door when you want.

By comparison the micro offers you, the end user, your own car. It might break down or run out of petrol, and you

may either crash or get lost — and the first course assisted will be offered in a year's time — the prospects are exciting. The benefits in administration, as vital as it is boring, is a substantial bonus for the student of the future who may never have to put pen to paper form again and for the cost-conscious university where setting and marking just one Tutor Marked Assignment on a foundation course can cost tens of thousands of pounds. But improvement of "the learning environment" is the main target.

Teaching in the decades ahead could offer the prospect of networks linking students, tutors and the university's mainframe, and, additionally, a network of course specialists to answer questions from students and non-specialist tutors. Since the equipment needed would include a modem, students could have the option of using it for research in the world's databases.

The computer-assisted courses being offered in 1986 are third-level undergraduate studies in Cognitive Psychology and a Software Engineering module in the Continuing Education programme with the Science and Engineering Research Council (SERC). The psychology students will be using mainframe terminals and micros to examine and construct artificial intelligence models and the SERC module fits into the industrial updating programme, Hektor III, with its 64K ram, 64K ram and modem (but no Base) is sold to industrial students and firms for £235, with optional extras like cassettes.

In 1987 about 2,000 students will be working on computer-assisted courses. "I have

course teams queuing up," said Professor Gower. Not surprisingly, technology teams are making their bids but, less obviously, arts teams see the possibilities and one probability is a German language course.

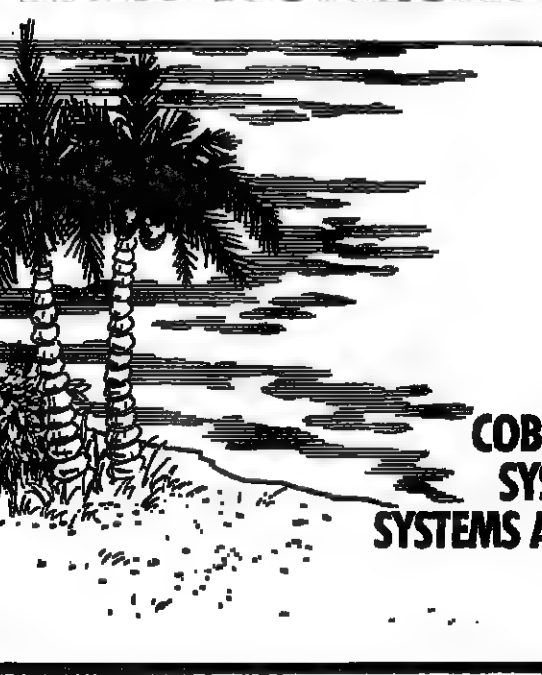
More than 49,000 applied for 1985 foundation courses — the necessary first step before higher level studies — and only 18,800 could be accepted, including 8,000 who had waited from original applications in 1983. This is expected to result in about 17,000 waiting the year to get 1986 courses. (The OU's Continuing Education programme is not affected because each course is self-financing.)

For students who have completed at least one foundation course, the computing courses are tempting. Computing & Computers offers theoretical and practical studies in program design and computer usage; Introductory Electronics teaches digital and analogue electronic theory and practice and The Digital Computer (which has a computer supplied) gives an understanding of computers, software and how they link to other devices.

Nearly 5,000 students are being accepted in 1986 for these three courses and nearly 4,000 are being turned away because of the lack of resources. Some will have waited three years to get a place before they can finally begin.

At the same time, the OU is being bombarded with demands from industry and commerce to upgrade and expand technology-related specialist areas. "There is a shortage of expertise in information Technology and distance learning can take

New Horizons



IBM 4341 SYSTEM 38 IBM PCs

Opportunities exist to join an exciting development team in Middlesbrough. A company with a household name are enhancing their current System 38 hardware by installing an IBM 4341 to operate alongside it. As a result the following first class positions with excellent salaries and career prospects are offered.

RPG III PROGRAMMER to £15,000
COBOL (DOS/VSE) PROGRAMMER to £15,000
SYSTEMS ANALYST (Commercial) to £15,000
SYSTEMS ANALYST (Information Centre) to £15,000

To apply contact Gordon Crutchley quoting ref BA5

Crutchley Recruitment
Churchfield House, Churchfield Road,
Chalfont St. Peter, Bucks. SL9 9EW.
Tel: Gerrards Cross (0753) 888570

Crutchley Recruitment



BLACKWELL'S

PROJECT LEADER SYSTEMS ANALYST

If you are interested in books, you will know something about Blackwell's. However, you may not know what we have achieved in computing over the last seventeen years, or that we are about to embark upon our most ambitious systems development to date.

We are initiating a complete renewal of systems in one of our main divisions, using structured systems development methods, data base management systems and fourth generation languages. We now want to make two important appointments to our development team.

The Project Leader, whom we expect to be a graduate in his or her thirties, must be able to demonstrate a record of significant achievement in his or her career to date implementing important systems using advanced techniques. We are looking for candidates who can offer management skills, technical leadership and business awareness so that we can ensure that the new systems are the best in our trade.

The company offers a salary in the region of £17,500 and other benefits including relocation assistance.

The Systems Analyst will work closely with the Project Leader in the development team. Candidates should have two to three years of systems analysis experience and should have seen at least one significant project through to completion. The salary would be in the region of £11,000.

If you are interested, please send a written application to Jackie Gunn, Personnel Officer, B.M. Blackwell, Bower House, Mythe Bridge Street, Oxford, OX1 2ET. Informal telephone enquiries can be made to Oxford 244844 Ext. 247.

University of Bath SOUTH WEST UNIVERSITIES REGIONAL COMPUTER CENTRE

SYSTEMS PROGRAMMERS

(£7,520 — £12,150)

Applications are invited for Systems Programmer vacancies in the Systems Development Department at SWURCC.

SWURCC provides a regional computing service across an extensive open system communications network to university institutions in the South West. The Centre is equipped with a large dual processor ICL 2980 computer running VME. An ICL Estriel will be installed in 1985 and a major upgrade is expected in 1988. The Systems Development department is responsible for maintaining and enhancing the VME operating system, filestore management, the installation of compilers, utilities and databases, networking and the development of the user interface to system facilities.

Current projects include the installation of VME SV211, the provision of a job transfer service based on "Red Book", the introduction of a VME2900 user service to supersede the existing user interface, developments to the locally developed high level job scheduler and preparation for the installation of the new Estriel machine.

Experience of VME and the design and development of system software would be a significant advantage. The appointments will be until 31st July, 1988 in the first instance.

Application forms and further particulars for these posts (Ref 85/30) may be obtained from the Personnel Officer, University of Bath, Claverton Down, BATH BA2 7AY. Closing date 21st March 1985.

Everybody's talking about network services join the company who delivers them.

At ICL's International Network Services, we know how it feels to have the eyes of the world on us. We're the people who are helping to keep ICL as the clear leader in VANS in the UK. It's a role that we're handling with considerable success. We're supplying leading companies in the holiday, coach travel, pharmaceuticals and many other markets with network services that offer tremendous benefits.

SENIOR CONSULTANTS*

Technical support for Britain's first commercial OSI network service c£16K. In overall terms, the task is to support new and existing subscribers to TRADANET - an Electronic Data Interchange network service. We see the roles as having two complementary functions. One concentrates on the more traditional consultancy aspects, such as pre-sales support and the education of new users; the other deals with more technical functions such as installing new users onto the service. We're looking for people whose 6-8 years in the IT industry includes a solid background of systems and programming, ideally in a small business COBOL environment, and experience of technical support to end users. A good, although not necessarily expert, knowledge of communication concepts and techniques is also important. Broad experience including other manufacturers hardware and software systems would complete our ideal profile.

SENIOR CONSULTANTS/PROJECT MANAGERS

Travel industry and many other application areas c£16K. We have two exceptionally challenging opportunities - one concerned with controlling major projects for the travel industry through to completion, and providing sales support to secure new contracts; the other concentrating on establishing our business in wider markets, developing these into successful Business Units in their own right. The key to successful applicants will be their own personal motivation to succeed together with good business analysis and project control experience gained over a period of 3-5 years.

A knowledge of ICL hardware and systems software would be useful particularly if gained in overseas. The world-wide building programme of over £600m a year offers excellent opportunities to gain the broadest experience in the design and erection of a wide variety of buildings and in the adaptation and extension of existing buildings.

Whether you are an experienced or a recently qualified Architect, we have a place for you. Working in a design office, you will normally join a small team that takes on projects - usually from inception through to completion. If you have ability, there are good career prospects.

To learn more about our work ring

01-890 1414
John Jenkins ext. 2411
Tom Stringer ext. 2447

or write with full career details to:
Michelle Barron,
Principal Personnel Officer,
ICL, Forest Road, Feltham,
Middlesex TW13 7EN.

We should be talking to each other. ICL
ICL IS A MEMBER OF THE STANDARD TELEPHONES AND CABLES PLC GROUP OF COMPANIES

ARCHITECTS BUILDING FOR THE NATION



USE YOUR PROFESSIONAL SKILL AND IMAGINATION

The Property Services Agency designs, constructs and maintains Government buildings and installations at home and overseas. The world-wide building programme of over £600m a year offers excellent opportunities to gain the broadest experience in the design and erection of a wide variety of buildings and in the adaptation and extension of existing buildings.

Whether you are an experienced or a recently qualified Architect, we have a place for you. Working in a design office, you will normally join a small team that takes on projects - usually from inception through to completion. If you have ability, there are good career prospects.

To learn more about our work ring

Andy Makepeace on 01-811 5573. We have vacancies in Edinburgh, Glasgow, Rosyth, Manchester, Cambridge, Bristol, Plymouth, Ruislip, Portsmouth, Shorncliffe and Hastings. Starting salary between £8610 and £14,070 depending on location, qualifications and experience. RELOCATION ASSISTANCE MAY BE AVAILABLE.

For further details and an application form (to be returned by 30 March 1985) write to Civil Service Commission, Alencon Link, Basingstoke, Hants RG21 1JB or telephone Basingstoke (0256) 468551 (answering service operates outside office hours). Please quote ref: TCB/80/5.

PSA PROPERTY SERVICES AGENCY
The Civil Service is an equal opportunity employer

CAN YOU MANAGE OTHERS?

Accelerated promotion into supervisory positions are available to people with sales ability and management aspirations. Age 25-60.

For personal interview telephone S. McJannett, 061-832 9844 till 6 p.m.

WHO DARES WINS

Investment banking isn't easy and we sincerely doubt you'll become a millionaire overnight. However, as a professional and established company we will comprehensively train you to earn in excess of £12,500 in your first year. If you are personable, ambitious and prepared to work extremely hard for the rewards you desire, we offer an unrivalled career and commission structure and consider enthusiasm to be the best form of experience. Age 21-35.

Telephone Mark James on 01-831 58447, 4 lines.

RESEARCH EXECUTIVE

Graduate needed to join expanding cosmetics research unit to produce European market reports. Knowledge of languages an asset; experience not essential.

Salary from £8,800 with bonus after six months.

Please apply in writing to:
Personnel Department
ERC Statistics International Ltd
Lynton House
Tavistock Square
London WC1H 9PU

Opportunities across the board in East Anglia and Northern Home Counties

For all positions in this composite applications are invited from both men and women.



Your best move yet!

CAMBRIDGE:
Block A, Brooklands Avenue,
Cambridge CB2 2HL. Tel: (0223) 354447.
CHELMSFORD:
1 High Street, Chelmsford,
Essex CM1 1YN. Tel: (0245) 260234.
LUTON:
56-62 Park Street,
Luton LU1 3JB. Tel: (0582) 417562.
NORWICH:
Norfolk Tower, Surrey Street,
Norwich NR1 3PA. Tel: (0603) 617426.

Project Leader Micro Software To £15,000

Our client is a market leader in the development, manufacture and marketing of professional broadcast equipment, and has major contracts worldwide. They seek a Project Leader to lead a team of programmers designing embedded micro applications. Candidates, preferably with an Electronics/Computer Science degree, should have at least five years' software development experience using high level and assembler languages (C, RPL, PL/M, etc) on Intel or Motorola micros. A hardware or communications background would be considered an asset. This is the chance to join and progress in a hi-technology and demanding environment. Large company benefits will include PPP and generous relocation assistance where appropriate. Write to David Garton, PER, Block A, Brooklands Avenue, Cambridge CB2 2HL.

Energy Management Engineer

Essex. The company, a leading designer and manufacturer of electronic devices, requires an engineer to fill a new key position. Candidates should be qualified to at least HNC level and have a good knowledge of electrical power distribution. You will be responsible for budgeting and monitoring costs and devising and implementing cost saving schemes. It is essential that you are persevering and able to deal diplomatically with people at all levels. Write with brief cv to Sheila James, PER, 1 High Street, Chelmsford, Essex CM1 1YN.

Exploration Opportunities

UK based. If electronics is your subject and you wish to travel the world, then these unusual and exciting positions are for you. The Exploration Products Division of Geosource UK Ltd. seek both a Field Service Engineer and a Computer Engineer, for installation, testing and maintenance of a range of sophisticated electronic equipment. The Field Service Engineer will maintain seismic data acquisition equipment on exploration sites worldwide. Whilst the Computer Engineer will specialise in seismic data processing equipment linked with Perkin-Elmer computers and laser plotting systems. Based in Norwich, the positions call for frequent travel in the UK and overseas. Applicants for both posts should hold a degree or equivalent in electronics with preference being given to those with previous experience in the seismic industry. Send full cv to Trisha Holmes, PER, Norfolk Tower, Surrey Street, Norwich NR1 3PA. Tel: (0603) 617426.

Management Development Specialist

S Herts. My client is looking for an experienced specialist to join a small, highly active professional firm involved in developing managers and supervisors in a large high technology industry located in South Herts. Ideally, you should be over 28, with a degree, and have five years' experience in the management development field. Knowledge of up-to-date training techniques is mandatory as is the ability to demonstrate a high level of influential skill at Director and Senior Management level. They offer freedom to develop and experiment, a good employment package and, where appropriate, relocation expenses. Send full cv to Lynda Babb, PER, 56-62 Park Street, Luton LU1 3JB.

Design Engineer

Essex. My client is a part of a high-technology, multi-national organisation involved in the application of pneumatic and hydraulic techniques. They now require a mechanical design engineer with 10 to 12 years' design experience, preferably, though not essentially, in pneumatic work and on-shore pneumatic drilling equipment. Candidates, ideally in their 30's, should be qualified to degree/HND level. There are excellent prospects for promotion. Assistance will be given with relocation where appropriate. Send full cv to Mary Walters, PER, 56-62 Park Street, Luton LU1 3JB.

Electronic and Software Engineers

Hatfield. We are engaged in exciting development projects ranging from aircraft cabin conditioning and wind energy electricity generation to infra red systems and air launched guided weapons. Expanding new business is taking our high technology into new fields, requiring established professional engineers working within multi-discipline, engineering teams, ensuring that quality is intrinsic to design and manufacture.

Chief Engineers

Experienced electronics team leaders in design and development, keen to guide and advise engineering teams to ensure high quality designs for cost-effective manufacture to stringent timescales. Familiarity with established and state-of-the-art technologies is essential.

Software Engineers

Experienced in a leading role, specifying, preparing and testing total software systems within structured disciplines. To join development teams ensuring timely and cost-effective preparation of high integrity software, conforming to both technical requirements and company standards. Also to assess and formally accept software on behalf of the quality organisation. Able to demonstrate a high degree of self-motivation and influence within a working group.

Salaries are competitive and attractive relocation packages available as appropriate. Contact John Wright, Employment Manager, British Aerospace plc, Dynamics Group, Hatfield/Luton, Division, Manor Road, Hatfield AL9 9LJ. Tel Hatfield 62300.



Strategic Planning & Sales Administration

Milton Keynes. Our client is an international company with sales, marketing, engineering and manufacturing facilities located in the UK to support their corporate image and successful sales of their standard and special product range of carbide cutting tools. They are a professional and highly successful company who are seeking to strengthen their management team. The position requires skills in management information systems, financial accounting, strategic planning and tracking, analysis of business plans and markets. Current source of management information is by means of the IBM 34 System. Recent introduction of an IBM PC to develop tracking systems for operational and departmental goals is an essential element of the job description. They require a creative energetic individual aged 30 to 40 who would be an important voice in the operations strategic plans. Excellent salary and benefits with scope for personal growth. Send full cv to Mary Walters, PER, 56-62 Park Street, Luton LU1 3JB.

Scientific Analytical Instruments

Braintree, Essex. Baird Atomic Ltd is part of the Baird Corporation of America. Established in the early 1960's, the company is autonomous, designing, manufacturing, marketing and giving after sales support for an impressive range of analytical instruments.

Electronics Design Engineer

c£11,500. This post calls for a versatile engineer who has a broad background in analogue, digital and microprocessor design. Degree or HND preferred although proven ability is of greater importance.

Software/Electronics Design Engineer

c£8,000. Candidates should have at least two years' industrial experience. This post is ideal for an ambitious young engineer, ideally in early 30's, with a sound knowledge of BASIC, machine code and assembler languages. Familiarity with 6502 processor and Apple computers is an advantage.

Design Draughtsperson

c£3,000. Two years' practical experience of design and manufacture of light sheet metal fabrications, small mechanical mechanisms and general instrument engineering techniques. Responsible for design, detail and prototyping of assemblies through to production release.

This is an opportunity for versatile engineers to join a small multi-disciplined team designing state-of-the-art micro-processor based scientific analytical instruments. Benefits include generous holidays and contributory pension scheme. Write with full cv to Mr K Bailey, Design Manager, Baird Atomic Ltd, Warner Drive, Springfield Industrial Estate, Braintree, Essex.

Conservation Work

Hertford. The British Trust for Conservation Volunteers run an MSC funded community programme project in Hertford. Vacancies will shortly exist for:

Field Officer + Assistant Assistant Training Officer Education Officer + Assistant Project Supervisor

These posts are open to people unemployed for six months if aged 18-25/one year if over 25 years, and in receipt of benefit. For further details phone Teresa Forshaw, PER Luton, on (0582) 417562.

JOB HUNTERS

For a free job hunting information pack and weekly details on the recruitment market place, including over 450 new jobs, complete this coupon and send it to PER, Moorfoot, The Moor, Sheffield S1 4PQ, or ring (0742) 704555. 24 hour answering service - (0743) 750197.

Name:

Address:

Occupation:

Date of Birth:

Salary required:

Unemployed or Employed:

Estimator/Project Planner

c£10,000. Halstead, Essex. PLC Hunwick Ltd, steel fabricators, require an estimator, able to read engineering drawings and to work on fabrication of tanks, vessels, pipework etc to ASME and BS5500 specifications. Non-contributory pension, medical cover, permanent health insurance scheme and excellent working conditions. Send cv to Mr T Clifton, MD, PLC Hunwick Ltd, Harrison Works, Kings Road, Halstead, Essex.

QC Supervisor

Norfolk. Attractive negotiable salary. Travel Laboratories Ltd is a leader in the field of intravenous therapy and related health care systems. We require a young life-sciences graduate to supervise QC activities within the manufacturing environment. Previous junior supervisory experience is essential for this rewarding career post. Telephone Maureen Luckett, Personnel Department, Travel Laboratories, on Thetford (0842) 4581.



System Sales Manager

Milton Keynes. Negotiable salary + car. The heat pump division of a national public company has a vacancy for a System Sales Manager to sell decentralised environmental systems to specifiers. He/she would be capable of discussing contract specifications with architects, consulting engineers, developers, etc. A knowledge of different types of air conditioning systems is necessary for commercial buildings. Please send full cv to Mrs B Beasley, Myson Coppard Limited, Old Wolverton Road, Wolverton, Milton Keynes MK12 5PT.

Electronic Opportunities

Norfolk. Negotiable salaries. OSEL are a well-established, highly respected, high technology company manufacturing remotely controlled and manned submarines and related equipment for specialised and technically challenging underwater engineering and maintenance. They currently require experienced engineers and technicians to be involved in R&D, test and implementation.

For further information, please write to Mr T Smith, Personnel Manager, OSEL, Boundary Road, Hartree Industrial Estate, Great Yarmouth, Norfolk.

Automotive Consultancy

Embarking on an exciting expansion programme to their thriving technical consultancy service from advanced combustion research through to 'turnkey' operations for world-wide clients, as well as introducing new high performance cars onto the market, Lotus Cars Limited requires experienced engineers to implement this programme. Ideally candidates will be graduates, chartered or experienced mechanical engineers with precision engineering, design and/or development experience in one or more of the following areas:

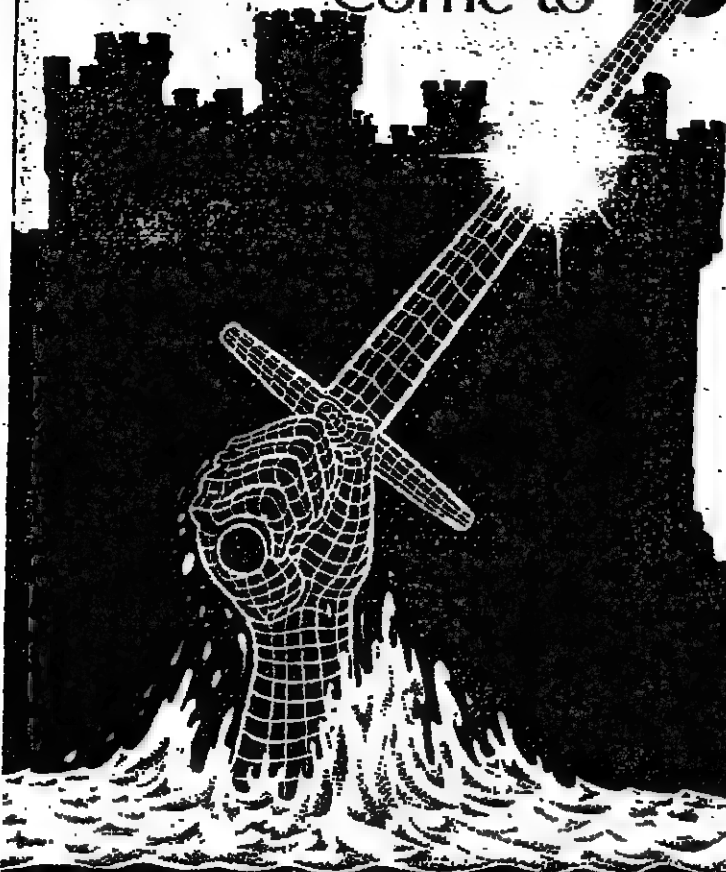
High Performance Petrol Engines Cylinder Head and Valve Gear Diesel Engines, Turbo Charges Emission Control, Four-Wheel Drive

Management, leader and junior positions exist for engineers seeking interesting positions in a progressive high technology environment. An attractive remuneration and relocation package is offered with this pioneering company. Send full cv to Stewart Kemp, PER, Norfolk Tower, Surrey Street, Norwich NR1 3PA. Tel: (0603) 617426.



YOUNG ELECTRONICS & SOFTWARE ENGINEERS

Come to 1066 Country...



Computing Devices, based on the East Sussex Coast, offers the kind of future that every ambitious engineer should consider carefully. This is an opportunity to develop both your career and your lifestyle where heritage and high technology meet—in the heart of 1066 Country.

Before Computing Devices lies a full order book and a great future—one we would like you to share. Our contracts include the design and development of Airborne Reconnaissance Digital Image Processing and Stores Management Systems for military aircraft. Our constant pioneering of uncharted territory often becomes tomorrow's technology.

All around us you will find unspoilt natural beauty in one of the most historic regions of Britain with a wealth of interest and old world charm waiting to be discovered. Behind us you will see a record of dynamic growth, together with the formidable resources of the Control Data Corporation.

We are a young company with an

informal friendly management style, offering the young engineer a real opportunity to influence events, where your achievements will be quickly recognised. To fuel our future growth plans we now seek graduate level men and women with 1-5 years experience in any of the following:

• **HARDWARE** • **SOFTWARE** • **SYSTEMS**
We are involved in high reliability and high speed hardware and software design. Our current projects utilise INTEL and ZILOG 8 and 16-bit microprocessors. The software is written in CORAL 68 and Assembler but we envisage moving to ADA shortly.

In addition to a competitive salary, you can expect an exceptionally good range of company benefits and you will be pleasantly surprised by house prices in East Sussex.

Please telephone or write for an application form, brochure and information to: Nigel Perks at Computing Devices Company Limited, Castleham Road, St Leonards on Sea, East Sussex TN38 7NJ. Tel: (0424) 53482. Interviews are held locally in most cases.

COMPUTING DEVICES



...Where heritage & high technology meet

(Excalibur & 1066 Country... It makes a good visual anyway)

unilever research ENGINEERS

Colworth Laboratory, Bedford

Challenging posts now exist in the largest food research establishment in Europe which also has substantial activities in biotechnology and health care. You should have professional qualifications in electrical, electronic engineering, mechanical engineering or chemical/biochemical engineering, some experience in the areas outlined below, excellent communication skills and the potential to operate effectively in a challenging multidisciplinary environment.

CONTROL ENGINEERS

Salary £9,000-£16,000

There are vacancies for engineers with experience in industrial robotics, automated mechanical handling systems and control systems. The work is concerned with designing and evaluating state-of-the-art instrumentation and systems for manufacturing operations principally in the food industry. This involves development engineering activities from feasibility studies to the design and commissioning of production prototype machinery and process control equipment.

Candidates with at least three years of relevant industrial experience and proven expertise in the design and operation of industrial control systems are preferred. Knowledge of PLCs, process computers or special purpose microprocessors is essential.

PACKAGING MATERIALS SPECIALIST

Salary £10,000-£17,000

The vacancy requires experience of the special packaging requirements of the food industry at a high level. The work is primarily to study the constraints and potential of new and existing packaging materials and their influence on foods packaging machine design.

FOOD PROCESSING ENGINEER (MEAT)

Salary £9,000-£16,000

The vacancy would suit applicants with a chemical/biochemical engineering background who have gained experience in the food manufacturing industry particularly in the meat area. The work is to investigate new food products and new manufacturing systems using a range of engineering skills and abilities.

BIOPROCESSING ENGINEER

Salary £9,000-£16,000

The vacancy requires a first degree in chemical or biochemical engineering and at least three years' experience in research or development in a bioprocessing field. The work involves feasibility studies and development of a range of new ideas for healthcare and food products.

Benefits are highly competitive and include relocation costs where applicable. Application forms can be obtained up to March 15 1985 from Miss P. Grayson, Recruitment Manager, Unilever Research, Colworth Laboratory, Sharnbrook, Bedford MK44 1LQ. Tel: Bedford (0234) 781781 ext. 2232 (Answerphone outside office hours).

No small beer for a good Business Analyst

With some 600 managed public throughout the South East, Charrington operates what is, by any standards, a large, complex and fast-moving retail organisation and by the same token, one which presents a constant challenge in the vital areas of Business Analysis and Systems Implementation. Right now we are at the beginning of a major project to introduce electronic point of sale to our retail trade which should eventually bring all those 600 pubs on-line to our host mainframes. It is an ambitious undertaking which demands qualified professionals, experienced in Business Systems Analysis and Development, who can help the project through to implementation and beyond.

We're not talking about 'technocrats', but people who have a sound understanding of O&M and Management techniques and the applications of computers based systems. If your experience has been gained in a retail environment and you are aware of current software on the market, so much the better. What is essential for this and other projects the company — is your ability to understand and communicate effectively with systems engineers and users on their own terms. And on the user side, we mean up to Regional Director level.

For this key role, which is based at our London Head Office, we expect to recruit a graduate with 3-5 years' professional experience who can make a real impact on the company whilst gaining invaluable experience for the future.

In addition to the attractive starting salary and 1600cc car (you can expect plenty of travel in the S.E.) we are offering an excellent benefits package and outstanding future prospects.

If you measure up, write and tell us why, enclosing your CV to Martin Wild, Systems Manager, Charrington & Co, Anchor House, Mile End, London E1 4UL.

Charrington

Ferranti Computer Systems Ltd.

Real-time Software Experts

An expanding, product orientated systems team, currently developing a range of Submarine Fire Control Systems for the home and overseas markets, urgently seek to fill the following system software vacancies.

Senior Software Designers c.£14k

To direct and oversee the design of real-time software from definition through implementation to integration and final customer acceptance. Experience in M700 or FM1600E computer architecture desirable.

Software Designers c.£12k

To design software for an overseas customer using MASCOF system design methodology. Applicants should have at least 2 years' experience in real-time software design; a knowledge of man-machine interfacing and Submarine Fire Control systems would be an advantage.

Programmers c.£10k

To design, code and test real-time Fire Control software, the successful candidates will be familiar with one or more of the following software disciplines:

Coral 66, Mascot, Fixpac (FM 1600E) Functional Documentation Pascal. The development will be accomplished using a variety of VAX resident software tools.



Successful men/women will join a dynamic team structured to fulfil the needs of short timescale, fixed price contracts. They will receive all the benefits associated with a large, multidisciplinary electronics company, including excellent working conditions at our offices in the pleasant surroundings of the Berkshire countryside.

Please write or telephone for an application form or send cv to The Recruitment Section, quoting ref. B/SS/G, Ferranti Computer Systems Ltd., Western Road, Bracknell, Berks RG12 1RA. Tel: Bracknell 483232 Ext. 3471.

FERRANTI
Selling technology

REQUIRED URGENTLY TRAINEES IN FUTURES DESIGN

WASHINGTON DC
We seek intelligent, responsible creative producers on a permanent basis for up to two years. We provide a modest stipend and exciting experience combining small community and strategic futures development publishing, computer aided design and appropriate technology. (We are currently located with a 100,000 sq ft library, electronic and computer shops. We emphasize internal cutting-edge development as applied in select projects with both small scale and multinational clients.) To receive further information for interviews on 4th/5th March, telephone Mr. Holder on 01753 5776.

EDUCATION GUARDIAN EDUCATION GUARDIAN

TUESDAYS
IN THE GUARDIAN

Training and Development Manager

MIDLANDS

package to £18,000

Our client is the Management Services function of a prestigious British Group with manufacturing, distributing and retailing interests throughout the UK and abroad. Reporting to the Director of Management Services and leading a team of eight Training and Personnel Officers, you will be expected to contribute immediately to the planning, development and implementation of Training Programmes to meet the needs of 300 DP Professionals plus computer users throughout the Group. Other major areas of involvement will be succession and manpower planning, recruitment and remuneration. This is an exciting opportunity for a flexible, innovative person capable of anticipating and responding effectively to the rapidly changing needs of the computer industry. Candidates should be graduates with ten years experience, either as a DP Manager in an environment where they have contributed to staff training and development, or as a Professional Trainer with significant exposure to the Management Services function. Excellent communication skills and the credibility to win line management support are essential. An attractive salary will be negotiated and the benefits package, including relocation assistance where appropriate, is that expected of a major employer. To apply, please write or telephone for an application form to PETER HAMBLETT, at the address below, quoting reference KG76. Applications, which will be treated in the strictest confidence, are invited from either sex.

BIS Applied Systems Limited
Ringway House,
Bull Street, Colmore Circus,
Birmingham B4 6AF.
Tel: 021-236 1687

THE LAW SOCIETY LEGAL AID SOLICITOR CHESTER £8,791-£17,012

Applications are invited from solicitors for a vacancy in the Chester Legal Aid Office at a salary within the above range, depending on age and experience and not necessarily at the minimum.

The work requires a solicitor with a level headed approach to assessing the merits and likely benefits of prospective legal actions, and an eye for detail, who can work in a quick orderly way and exercise sound judgment. Experience should cover all types of matrimonial and general litigation.

The terms of service include a contributory superannuation scheme with dependants provision, regular increments and four weeks annual leave. Removal expenses are not payable on first appointment and applicants from outside the area are therefore asked to confirm that they envisage no problem in moving to within commuting distance of the office.

Applicants who would like additional information are invited to telephone the Personnel Manager, Legal Aid, on 01-242 1222.

Write in confidence by the 10th March 1985, giving full details of education, experience, employment, present salary and date available to: Personnel Manager, Legal Aid, The Law Society, 113 Chancery Lane, London WC2A 1PL.



WALTHAMSTOW BUILDING SOCIETY

requires a

DISTRICT MANAGER

Applications are invited for the position of District Manager to be responsible for the Society's two Walthamstow branch offices.

The successful applicant must be able to communicate at all levels and have a proven record of new business development in Financial Services at managerial level. Determination, self-motivation, and the ability to motivate staff are essential qualities of this challenging position.

The salary offered reflects the importance of this position and additional benefits include a staff car, preferential mortgage facilities, contributory pension scheme, and free PPP membership.

Written applications only please, giving details of career and current salary to:

A. F. Parker
Assistant General Manager (Marketing)
WALTHAMSTOW BUILDING SOCIETY
869 Forest Road
Walthamstow
London E17 4BB

Hong Kong. Your chance to display some very special qualities

Join the Royal Hong Kong Police and you will be working in an unusual environment. Hong Kong is generally acknowledged as one of the world's most exciting cities — dynamic, prosperous and unbelievably crowded. Because of this environment, your job as a Police Officer is that much more demanding, requiring a number of qualities. Leadership for instance, very important (as if you who takes decisions while others hesitate?). Energy, lots of it, and stamina too. Tact coupled with a sense of humour — together they can defuse a difficult situation faster than anything else. And integrity: there will be times when you'll be very much on your own.

To apply you must be a single man between 18½ and 27 years of age with at least 2 A levels and 3 O levels including English Language. If you have a degree so much the better, you would then qualify for a higher starting salary. You must also be over 5'7" tall, physically fit and have good eyesight.

After a thorough training you will become a Police Inspector with about 40 disciplined men ready to carry out your orders.

What we can offer you:
• Approximately £31,000* total salary for first three years
• 25% gratuity on salary
• Good promotion prospects
• Subsidised accommodation

*Based on approximate exchange rate of HK \$9.00 = £1.00 (These rates are subject to fluctuation)

If you are interested and qualified, please write for further details and an application form to The Police Appointments Officer, at The Hong Kong Government Office, 6 Grafton Street, London W1X 3LE.

Royal Hong Kong Police
the proving ground for natural leaders

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY APPOINTMENTS

TO BOOK SPACE
RING OUR LONDON OFFICE
01-278 2332

APPEAR EVERY THURSDAY IN

THE GUARDIAN

OR MANCHESTER OFFICE
061-832 7200

Graduate

With more than an interest in Computers

Luton based c £10,000 pa

Whitbread is one of the UK's most progressive companies with extensive interests in the brewing and retail leisure industry. Within the supply planning section of the Whitbread Breweries Division we are involved in the production of long term facilities plans, annual sourcing plans and medium and short term operational schedules.

You will be involved in all aspects of the section including the monitoring of performance against plans and maintaining customer service and minimum stock holding. Ideally you will be aged 23 - 30 years, educated to degree level, be numerate and have the ability to work on your own initiative. Since a large amount of your time will be spent on a mainframe linked PC it is essential that you have a good understanding of computers.

Salary is negotiable around £10,000 pa depending on your experience and potential, and other benefits include five weeks annual leave, contributory pension scheme, BUPA and discounts on Company products.

Please write for an application form to Andrew Reeve, Personnel and Administration Manager, Whitbread & Co, Whitbread House, Park Street West, Luton, Beds LU1 3BG.



WHITBREAD

PROJECT MANAGER

A dynamic and enthusiastic Manager is required for a planned Open Learning Project for technician engineers and technicians in electronic engineering. The Project, to be initially funded for two years by the Manpower Services Commission under its Open Tech Programme, will develop open learning material for the electronics and telecommunications industries. The position, based in London, will demand experience in project management and a broad understanding of industry, coupled with the ability to market the concept and organise a small team in a fast-moving and progressive situation. Excellent salary.

Applications in confidence with full curriculum vitae please to:

A C Giggell
Secretary
The Institution of Electrical and
Electronics Incorporated Engineers
2 Savoy Hill
London WC2R 0BS

ieele

Management through Sales

Young graduate for sales position in SE London
to £9,600+car+benefits

Dornay Foods is part of the international Mars Group, manufacturing and marketing high quality convenience foods including Uncle Ben's Rice, Tyme Brand meats and Yeoman mashed potatoes.

Following an internal career move, we're looking for a talented, self-motivated graduate to train into a selling role based in South East London.

Aged 22-28, you'll already have made a bright start to your career with at least one year's experience - not necessarily in sales.

This is an appointment within a group which offers levels of responsibility and reward well above the norm, where promotion prospects are not restricted by

functional, company or national boundaries. Your hard work plus our training will let you progress as quickly as your ability will allow. We expect the results you produce on your sales territory to earn you a management opportunity within two years.

In return we offer a starting salary of up to £9,600, a 14% car generous incentives and a comprehensive range of non-contributory benefits.

If this sounds like the opportunity you've been waiting for then send your CV NOW to: Julie Meakin, Personnel Officer, Dornay Foods (Division of Mars UK Ltd), PO Box 13, Hansa Road, Kings Lynn, Norfolk, PE30 4JE, or telephone 0753 6130 for an application form.

Dornay Foods

COMPUTER OPPORTUNITIES HP3000 with Brand Leaders - Greater Manchester

As brand leaders in fashion footwear, table and kitchenware Dornay are fully committed to computerisation and use the most up to date hardware. Their policy provides the opportunity for career minded professionals to work on sophisticated commercial developments using a HP 3000 Series 85 machine at their Headquarters in Swinton, Greater Manchester.

They are now seeking to strengthen their professional computer team by recruiting -

Senior Analyst
reporting to the DP Manager your primary role will be to develop and implement new projects especially in connection with the introduction of a new order process system.
Aged 25 plus you should have at least 5 years DP experience, including 3 years Systems Analysis in a commercial/industrial environment using COBOL.

Analyst/Programmer
to work with and report to a Senior Analyst, primary

responsibility will be to support the above application. You should have at least 1 years experience as an Analyst/Programmer ideally using COBOL.

Programmer
to form an important part of this successful existing team. You should also have proven experience of using COBOL.

These are excellent opportunities for male or female Computer Professionals who are looking to gain experience with the latest HP 3000 equipment. The company are prepared to train successful applicants whose experience does not exactly match their requirements.

The Company offers excellent salaries and conditions together with benefits including relocation assistance, if appropriate, superannuation scheme, subsidised meals and discounts on all own manufactured goods.

Please send full CV stating which appointment you are interested in to Cheryl Thomas, PER, Lowry House, Manchester M2 8AW.

Dorma PER & Executive Recruitment

Royal Scottish Museum - Edinburgh Geology Department

Curator

... this is an opportunity to be involved in the day-to-day running of the laboratories and providing technical support for the work of the department. Work will also include demonstrating techniques to specialist groups and the public and dealing with enquiries.

Candidates must have practical geological experience and should normally have a relevant degree, diploma, technical certificate or an equivalent qualification. Those without such qualifications may be considered if they have significant experience of special value. They must be able to work in a wide range of techniques, including thin section and polished mount preparation; conservation and preparation of specimens; moulding and casting; rock cutting and polishing; and rock and mineral separation.

Salary: As Curator Grade E, £8065-£10,725, as Curator Grade F, £6015-£8490. Starting salary and level of appointment according to qualifications and experience.

For further details and an application form (to be returned by 22 March 1985) write to The Scottish Office, Personnel Division, Room 110, 16 Waterloo Place, Edinburgh EH1 3DN. Please quote ref: G(7)382.

An equal opportunity employer

PA TO DIRECT MARKETING MANAGER

Responsible, interesting position for a person with good office skills to develop sales letter writing ability while assisting on reports, schedules and dealing with delegates on training courses. Excellent salary according to experience.

Write to Denis Whitham, British Safety Council, Safety Centre, Chancery Road, London WC2R 0BS.

ELECTRICAL ENGINEER

Director-Designate
Qualified Engineer needed to join team working on WIND ENERGY experience as supply industry.

Telephone NORTHUMBRIA ENERGY WORKSHOP Ltd, Hexham (0434) 804809, for details.

LEISURE SERVICES DEPARTMENT Marketing and Publicity Manager

The Leisure Department wishes to fill this NEW POST with an enthusiastic and go-ahead person. If you have a minimum of two years' experience in Marketing / Publicity, are probably a graduate aged 25-30, prepared to work hard to attain demanding objectives, this could be the job for you.

The successful applicant will play a vital role in the development and implementation of a marketing strategy. He/she will be expected to undertake a wide variety of tasks and contribute to increasing public awareness and use of the facilities offered by the Leisure Department.

The post attracts a salary of up to around £10,300 plus car allowance and, where applicable, removal expenses. Help may be given with accommodation.

Further details and an application form can be obtained by telephoning / writing to Mr B. Warden, Director of Leisure Services, Dacorum Borough Council, Civic Centre, Marlowes, Hemel Hempstead, Herts HP1 1HH, Tel (0442) 80161 ext 2500. Closing date: 15th March, 1985.

We are an Equal Opportunity employer.

DACORUM
BOROUGH COUNCIL

★ **ADVERTISEMENT** ★
★ **MANAGER** ★
★ **CLASSIFIED SALES TEAM** ★
★ A leading UK entertainment industry trade publication is looking ★
★ for a dynamic and experienced advertisement manager to work ★
★ as part of a small close-knit team. Remuneration will be ★
★ commensurate with experience and ability. ★
★ The magazine is part of a small aggressive trade publishing ★
★ group about to expand into new areas of the market. We ★
★ therefore need to immediately recruit new members to our ★
★ classified sales team. Working in a relaxed atmosphere part of a ★
★ team. ★
★ Contact us now on 01-587 1538 ★
★ *****

INDUSTRIAL/TECHNICAL WRITER
To join our "Written Communication Team" assisting with projects as varied as Press Releases and Technical articles, Technical newsletters, Sales Brochures, Technical literature and AV presentations. Ideally candidates will have a background in Electronics and/or Building / Construction. IAS is the largest "Business to Business" Advertising, Marketing and PR organisation outside London employing 50+ personnel in rural Cheshire. The company offers a good salary, excellent prospects, profit sharing and other fringe benefits. Applications in writing to: P. Hazellhurst, PR Director, IAS ADVERTISING AND MARKETING, 105 Palmerston Street, Bollington, Macclesfield, Cheshire SK10 5PW

GENERAL

BIRMINGHAM CITY COUNCIL

An Equal Opportunities Employer
ENGINEERS DEPARTMENT
(Re-advertisement)

Applications are invited for the following post:

**ELECTRICAL AND MECHANICAL MAINTENANCE
DIVISION - (BOILER & SWITCHEBOARD)**

**SENIOR ENGINEER
(Energy Conservation)**
£11,825/£11,880 per annum

An Engineer is required to lead a small section which specialises in the application of a range of energy conservation techniques to the operation of the City's Engineering Services in buildings. Applicants must be technically qualified to the standard of Membership of C.I.B.S. or equivalent and have had experience in the design or maintenance of boiler plant, heating and ventilation systems, air conditioning, lighting electrical services. The successful candidate will be responsible for the development of the City's energy conservation policy by co-ordination of the work of other Departments through liaison and organisation of the City's energy conservation committee. The successful candidate will be responsible for the development of the use of computer programs for on-line plant control and data processing for fuel consumption monitoring and tariff analysis. Ref No. 2395. Previous applicants need not re-apply as they will automatically be reconsidered.

Application forms are available from the City Engineer's Department, Backsville House, Broad Street, Birmingham B1 2NP, telephone 235 3134 to be returned no later than Friday, March 15, 1985. Candidates will be interviewed.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

University of Newcastle upon Tyne COMPUTING LABORATORY

TEMPORARY PROGRAMMER

MICROCOMPUTER NETWORK PROJECT

Applications are invited from graduates for an appointment in the Computing Laboratory to develop software in connection with a total machine project in the schools of Mathematics and Physics. The successful candidate will be responsible for the design and development of a microcomputer network system.

Further particulars may be obtained from the Senior Assistant Registrar, P.O. Box 1, The University of Newcastle upon Tyne, Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 7RU. Applications should be sent to the above address by 15 March 1985.

Further particulars may be obtained from the Senior Assistant Registrar, P.O. Box 1, The University of Newcastle upon Tyne, Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 7RU. Applications should be sent to the above address by 15 March 1985.

Further particulars may be obtained from the Senior Assistant Registrar, P.O. Box 1, The University of Newcastle upon Tyne, Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 7RU. Applications should be sent to the above address by 15 March 1985.

Further particulars may be obtained from the Senior Assistant Registrar, P.O. Box 1, The University of Newcastle upon Tyne, Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 7RU. Applications should be sent to the above address by 15 March 1985.

Further particulars may be obtained from the Senior Assistant Registrar, P.O. Box 1, The University of Newcastle upon Tyne, Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 7RU. Applications should be sent to the above address by 15 March 1985.

Further particulars may be obtained from the Senior Assistant Registrar, P.O. Box 1, The University of Newcastle upon Tyne, Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 7RU. Applications should be sent to the above address by 15 March 1985.

Further particulars may be obtained from the Senior Assistant Registrar, P.O. Box 1, The University of Newcastle upon Tyne, Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 7RU. Applications should be sent to the above address by 15 March 1985.

Further particulars may be obtained from the Senior Assistant Registrar, P.O. Box 1, The University of Newcastle upon Tyne, Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 7RU. Applications should be sent to the above address by 15 March 1985.

Further particulars may be obtained from the Senior Assistant Registrar, P.O. Box 1, The University of Newcastle upon Tyne, Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 7RU. Applications should be sent to the above address by 15 March 1985.

Further particulars may be obtained from the Senior Assistant Registrar, P.O. Box 1, The University of Newcastle upon Tyne, Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 7RU. Applications should be sent to the above address by 15 March 1985.

Further particulars may be obtained from the Senior Assistant Registrar, P.O. Box 1, The University of Newcastle upon Tyne, Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 7RU. Applications should be sent to the above address by 15 March 1985.

Further particulars may be obtained from the Senior Assistant Registrar, P.O. Box 1, The University of Newcastle upon Tyne, Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 7RU. Applications should be sent to the above address by 15 March 1985.

Further particulars may be obtained from the Senior Assistant Registrar, P.O. Box 1, The University of Newcastle upon Tyne, Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 7RU. Applications should be sent to the above address by 15 March 1985.

Further particulars may be obtained from the Senior Assistant Registrar, P.O. Box 1, The University of Newcastle upon Tyne, Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 7RU. Applications should be sent to the above address by 15 March 1985.

Further particulars may be obtained from the Senior Assistant Registrar, P.O. Box 1, The University of Newcastle upon Tyne, Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 7RU. Applications should be sent to the above address by 15 March 1985.

Further particulars may be obtained from the Senior Assistant Registrar, P.O. Box 1, The University of Newcastle upon Tyne, Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 7RU. Applications should be sent to the above address by 15 March 1985.

Further particulars may be obtained from the Senior Assistant Registrar, P.O. Box 1, The University of Newcastle upon Tyne, Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 7RU. Applications should be sent to the above address by 15 March 1985.

Further particulars may be obtained from the Senior Assistant Registrar, P.O. Box 1, The University of Newcastle upon Tyne, Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 7RU. Applications should be sent to the above address by 15 March 1985.

Further particulars may be obtained from the Senior Assistant Registrar, P.O. Box 1, The University of Newcastle upon Tyne, Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 7RU. Applications should be sent to the above address by 15 March 1985.

Further particulars may be obtained from the Senior Assistant Registrar, P.O. Box 1, The University of Newcastle upon Tyne, Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 7RU. Applications should be sent to the above address by 15 March 1985.

Further particulars may be obtained from the Senior Assistant Registrar, P.O. Box 1, The University of Newcastle upon Tyne, Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 7RU. Applications should be sent to the above address by 15 March 1985.

Further particulars may be obtained from the Senior Assistant Registrar, P.O. Box 1, The University of Newcastle upon Tyne, Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 7RU. Applications should be sent to the above address by 15 March 1985.

Further particulars may be obtained from the Senior Assistant Registrar, P.O. Box 1, The University of Newcastle upon Tyne, Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 7RU. Applications should be sent to the above address by 15 March 1985.

Further particulars may be obtained from the Senior Assistant Registrar, P.O. Box 1, The University of Newcastle upon Tyne, Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 7RU. Applications should be sent to the above address by 15 March 1985.

Further particulars may be obtained from the Senior Assistant Registrar, P.O. Box 1, The University of Newcastle upon Tyne, Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 7RU. Applications should be sent to the above address by 15 March 1985.

Further particulars may be obtained from the Senior Assistant Registrar, P.O. Box 1, The University of Newcastle upon Tyne, Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 7RU. Applications should be sent to the above address by 15 March 1985.

Further particulars may be obtained from the Senior Assistant Registrar, P.O. Box 1, The University of Newcastle upon Tyne, Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 7RU. Applications should be sent to the above address by 15 March 1985.

Further particulars may be obtained from the Senior Assistant Registrar, P.O. Box 1, The University of Newcastle upon Tyne, Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 7RU. Applications should be sent to the above address by 15 March 1985.

Further particulars may be obtained from the Senior Assistant Registrar, P.O. Box 1, The University of Newcastle upon Tyne, Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 7RU. Applications should be sent to the above address by 15 March 1985.

Further particulars may be obtained from the Senior Assistant Registrar, P.O. Box 1, The University of Newcastle upon Tyne, Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 7RU. Applications should be sent to the above address by 15 March 1985.

Further particulars may be obtained from the Senior Assistant Registrar, P.O. Box 1, The University of Newcastle upon Tyne, Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 7RU. Applications should be sent to the above address by 15 March 1985.

Further particulars may be obtained from the Senior Assistant Registrar, P.O. Box 1, The University of Newcastle upon Tyne, Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 7RU. Applications should be sent to the above address by 15 March 1985.

Further particulars may be obtained from the Senior Assistant Registrar, P.O. Box 1, The University of Newcastle upon Tyne, Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 7RU. Applications should be sent to the above address by 15 March 1985.

Further particulars may be obtained from the Senior Assistant Registrar, P.O. Box 1, The University of Newcastle upon Tyne, Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 7RU. Applications should be sent to the above address by 15 March 1985.

Further particulars may be obtained from the Senior Assistant Registrar, P.O. Box 1, The University of Newcastle upon Tyne, Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 7RU. Applications should be sent to the above address by 15 March 1985.

Further particulars may be obtained from the Senior Assistant Registrar, P.O. Box 1, The University of Newcastle upon Tyne, Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 7RU. Applications should be sent to the above address by 15 March 1985.

Further particulars may be obtained from the Senior Assistant Registrar, P.O. Box 1, The University of Newcastle upon Tyne, Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 7RU. Applications should be sent to the above address by 15 March 1985.

Further particulars may be obtained from the Senior Assistant Registrar, P.O. Box 1, The University of Newcastle upon Tyne, Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 7RU. Applications should be sent to the above address by 15 March 1985.

Further particulars may be obtained from the Senior Assistant Registrar, P.O. Box 1, The University of Newcastle upon Tyne, Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 7RU. Applications should be sent to the above address by 15 March 1985.

Further particulars may be obtained from the Senior Assistant Registrar, P.O. Box 1, The University of Newcastle upon Tyne, Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 7RU. Applications should be sent to the above address by 15 March 1985.

Further particulars may be obtained from the Senior Assistant Registrar, P.O. Box 1, The University of Newcastle upon Tyne, Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 7RU. Applications should be sent to the above address by 15 March 1985.

Further particulars may be obtained from the Senior Assistant Registrar, P.O. Box 1, The University of Newcastle upon Tyne, Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 7RU. Applications should be sent to the above address by 15 March 1985.

Further particulars may be obtained from the Senior Assistant Registrar, P.O. Box 1, The University of Newcastle upon Tyne, Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 7RU. Applications should be sent to the above address by 15 March 1985.

Further particulars may be obtained from the Senior Assistant Registrar, P.O. Box 1, The University of Newcastle upon Tyne, Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 7RU. Applications should be sent to the above address by 15 March 1985.

Further particulars may be obtained from the Senior Assistant Registrar, P.O. Box 1, The University of Newcastle upon Tyne, Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 7RU. Applications should be sent to the above address by 15 March 1985.

Further particulars may be obtained from the Senior Assistant Registrar, P.O. Box 1, The University of Newcastle upon Tyne, Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 7RU. Applications should be sent to the above address by 15 March 1985.

Further particulars may be obtained from the Senior Assistant Registrar, P.O. Box 1, The University of Newcastle upon Tyne, Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 7RU. Applications should be sent to the above address by 15 March 1985.

Further particulars may be obtained from the Senior Assistant Registrar, P.O. Box 1, The University of Newcastle upon Tyne, Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 7RU. Applications should be sent to the above address by 15 March 1985.

Further particulars may be obtained from the Senior Assistant Registrar, P.O. Box 1, The University of Newcastle upon Tyne, Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 7RU. Applications should be sent to the above address by 15 March 1985.

RESEARCH/ RESEARCH AWARDS

UNIVERSITY OF NOTTINGHAM

COMPUTER SCIENCE GROUP

RESEARCH ASSISTANT

Curative Script Recognition

Applications are invited for the post of Research Assistant to work on an on-line curative script recognition project. The successful candidate will be responsible for the development of a software package for the recognition of cursive handwriting. The successful candidate will be responsible for the development of a software package for the recognition of cursive handwriting.

Further particulars may be obtained from the Senior Assistant Registrar, P.O. Box 1, The University of Newcastle upon Tyne, Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 7RU. Applications should be sent to the above address by 15 March 1985.

Further particulars may be obtained from the Senior Assistant Registrar, P.O. Box 1, The University of Newcastle upon Tyne, Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 7RU. Applications should be sent to the above address by 15 March 1985.

Further particulars may be obtained from the Senior Assistant Registrar, P.O. Box 1, The University of Newcastle upon Tyne, Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 7RU. Applications should be sent to the above address by 15 March 1985.

Further particulars may be obtained from the Senior Assistant Registrar, P.O. Box 1, The University of Newcastle upon Tyne, Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 7RU. Applications should be sent to the above address by 15 March 1985.

Further particulars may be obtained from the Senior Assistant Registrar, P.O. Box 1, The University of Newcastle upon Tyne, Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 7RU. Applications should be sent to the above address by 15 March 1985.

Further particulars may be obtained from the Senior Assistant Registrar, P.O. Box 1, The University of Newcastle upon Tyne, Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 7RU. Applications should be sent to the above address by 15 March 1985.

Further particulars may be obtained from the Senior Assistant Registrar, P.O. Box 1, The University of Newcastle upon Tyne, Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 7RU. Applications should be sent to the above address by 15 March 1985.

Further particulars may be obtained from the Senior Assistant Registrar, P.O. Box 1, The University of Newcastle upon Tyne, Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 7RU. Applications should be sent to the above address by 15 March 1985.

Further particulars may be obtained from the Senior Assistant Registrar, P.O. Box 1, The University of Newcastle upon Tyne, Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 7RU. Applications should be sent to the above address by 15 March 1985.

Further particulars may be obtained from the Senior Assistant Registrar, P.O. Box 1, The University of Newcastle upon Tyne, Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 7RU. Applications should be sent to the above address by 15 March 1985.

Further particulars may be obtained from the Senior Assistant Registrar, P.O. Box 1, The University of Newcastle upon Tyne, Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 7RU. Applications should be sent to the above address by 15 March 1985.

Further particulars may be obtained from the Senior Assistant Registrar, P.O. Box 1, The University of Newcastle upon Tyne, Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 7RU. Applications should be sent to the above address by 15 March 1985.

Further particulars may be obtained from the Senior Assistant Registrar, P.O. Box 1, The University of Newcastle upon Tyne, Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 7RU. Applications should be sent to the above address by 15 March 1985.

Further particulars may be obtained from the Senior Assistant Registrar, P.O. Box 1, The University of Newcastle upon Tyne, Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 7RU. Applications should be sent to the above address by 15 March 1985.

Further particulars may be obtained from the Senior Assistant Registrar, P.O. Box 1, The University of Newcastle upon Tyne, Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 7RU. Applications should be sent to the above address by 15 March 1985.

Further particulars may be obtained from the Senior Assistant Registrar, P.O. Box 1, The University of Newcastle upon Tyne, Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 7RU. Applications should be sent to the above address by 15 March 1985.

Further particulars may be obtained from the Senior Assistant Registrar, P.O. Box 1, The University of Newcastle upon Tyne, Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 7RU. Applications should be sent to the above address by 15 March 1985.

Further particulars may be obtained from the Senior Assistant Registrar, P.O. Box 1, The University of Newcastle upon Tyne, Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 7RU. Applications should be sent to the above address by 15 March 1985.

Further particulars may be obtained from the Senior Assistant Registrar, P.O. Box 1, The University of Newcastle upon Tyne, Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 7RU. Applications should be sent to the above address by 15 March 1985.

Further particulars may be obtained from the Senior Assistant Registrar, P.O. Box 1, The University of Newcastle upon Tyne, Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 7RU. Applications should be sent to the above address by 15 March 1985.

Further particulars may be obtained from the Senior Assistant Registrar, P.O. Box 1, The University of Newcastle upon Tyne, Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 7RU. Applications should be sent to the above address by 15 March 1985.

Further particulars may be obtained from the Senior Assistant Registrar, P.O. Box 1, The University of Newcastle upon Tyne, Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 7RU. Applications should be sent to the above address by 15 March 1985.

Further particulars may be obtained from the Senior Assistant Registrar, P.O. Box 1, The University of Newcastle upon Tyne, Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 7RU. Applications should be sent to the above address by 15 March 1985.

Further particulars may be obtained from the Senior Assistant Registrar, P.O. Box 1, The University of Newcastle upon Tyne, Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 7RU. Applications should be sent to the above address by 15 March 1985.

Further particulars may be obtained from the Senior Assistant Registrar, P.O. Box 1, The University of Newcastle upon Tyne, Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 7RU. Applications should be sent to the above address by 15 March 1985.

Further particulars may be obtained from the Senior Assistant Registrar, P.O. Box 1, The University of Newcastle upon Tyne, Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 7RU. Applications should be sent to the above address by 15 March 1985.

POP STARS usually come in predictable shapes and sizes. There are the ones who look like Thunderbirds' puppets with neat, swept-back hair and gleaming white teeth. They rise high in the charts for a year or two before the little girls they appeal to grow up and their younger sisters replace them with another make of the same model. There are the thin, wasted ones who pride themselves on being at death's door. There are fat, loud ones and dirty ones with long hair. But every now and then a pop star comes along who doesn't fit into any of these moulds.

One such pop star is Terry Hall, an unprepossessing sort of chap with hair that stands out at strange angles like an old mop, and a face so pale and emotion-free that he makes Buster Keaton look like Sir Donald Wolfit. When this human ghost opens his mouth out comes a voice so nasal, so free of the traditional attributes of a good singing voice, depth, range, timbre, that you wonder how its owner ever found the nerve to get up on stage. And yet... it gets right under your skin, a voice that haunts you long after supposedly better ones have faded from the memory. Give that voice a dull song and it can make it interesting. Give it an interesting song and it can make it great. One such moment is taking place right now as Thinking Of You, by the Colourfield, inches its way towards the Number One spot it deserves.

Waldemar Januszczak meets the ex-Specials star Terry Hall and his new group Colourfield

A ghost goes chart busting

Terry Hall (right) and Colourfield: picture by Denis Thorpe

"I guess it's in there, the whole dead-pan miserable thing. It isn't calculated. It's just not wanting to embarrass myself and my family by acting like a Wham. It's not new. I've had it since I was five. I can remember family parties where aunts would come up and say, 'Cheer up, it might never happen.'"

Terry Hall says that he sings with his sister, natural voice because he could not face it he ever attempted the false mod-Atlantic drawl that the rest of them use. To those who say that the cam-

era never lies I hold him up as a counter argument. On Top Of The Pops he seems surly and sulky. He would clearly prefer to be elsewhere. But in the shy young man, with a sharp wit and an even sharper tongue, I ask him what his best moment with the Specials was.

"Leaving," he snaps back. Do you remember the summer of 1981? Every time you turned on the radio you were liable to hear one of two things. Either a breathless BBC reporter passing on the fresh rumour that there would be a race riot in Brixton or Toxteth or St Paul's tonight, or you heard that thin, mournful voice telling you that this town is coming like a ghost-town. Can't go on no more. People getting angry...

What powerful social glue is it that cements a popular song to a moment in history? Ghost Town, by the Specials, reached Number One in the hit parade in the week of the Brixton riots. The song complained that if someone didn't take the lid off the inner ghettos soon they would explode. It was a song so chillingly prescient that the subsequent riots

might have been staged to illustrate it. Unlike the other groups who were attempting to graft punk crudely onto politics the Specials never made the mistake of equating rage with noise, anger with anarchy. A Special's song was a glorious, uplifting thing that preached to your feet. Seeing them performing, clambouring over the speakers, up ropes, careering across the stage, it seemed that every one was having such fun complaining about Thatcher's Britain. Everyone but Terry Hall that is. Terry would stand there in the middle of

the mayhem grudgingly reciting his lines, looking like a little boy lost in a busy railway station. It was an irresistible combination. The end came with indecent speed. Ghost Town had barely established its position as one of the classic pop records of our era when half of the group left to become the Fun Boy Three. The usual internal differences were blamed, and that infectious air of inter-racial, inter-class harmony which the Specials radiated on stage was revealed as an illusion. Behind the scenes there were endless squabbles about

"who can be the most political this week." Most importantly perhaps the friendship which Terry Hall values so highly in his groups had broken into nasty little pieces.

The Fun Boy Three had their 15 minutes of real glory, as groups involving Terry Hall are bound to do. The Lunatics Have Taken Over The Asylum and Our Lips Are Sealed were brave and unique examples of voodoo pop with Terry looking ever more like a badly frightened Dave Berry. Then the same kind of squabbles which tore the Specials apart broke up Fun Boy Three.

His ambitions with the Colourfield are simple. The most important thing is for the three members to remain friends and write the kind of songs that come naturally.

The relationship between Terry Hall and Toby Lyns lies at the heart of the group. They are old friends from Coventry. They take turns at speaking and turns at writing songs. Toby was the only person Terry felt he could talk to during the horrible last days of the Fun Boy Three, the final American tour when they burned the Stars and Stripes on stage, not as a political gesture but to celebrate the end of pop politics and the start of real life.

"I really don't know what's happening in Northern Ireland. I don't know what's happening in Russia. I know what's happening in Stockport. I know what time the shops shut. That's about as political as I am."

Nancy Banks-Smith on the trail of Captain Scott

Pole faults

CAPTAIN Oates's last words in The Last Place On Earth (Central) — "Call of nature, Birdie" — have been heavily leaked and the word seems all too appropriate. According to Scott, Oates said "I am just going outside and may be some time" but Trevor Griffiths thought Scott was making that up so he made up something himself.

I was talking to a former critic of the Daily Telegraph about The Last Place On Earth and she said Oates was a gentleman and couldn't possibly have said anything like that. One must bow to the Telegraph's judgment on what a fellow don't do and, though it is an upper-cut for Trevor Griffiths, no doubt as a socialist he can stand it.

Call of nature is a euphemism and gentlemen are supposed, how can I put it, to come right on with it. Look how loos in the Lords are marked not with the figure of a little chap in a corset but baldly and with no beating about the bush. Pears.

Oates was an officer and a gentleman. A hunting shooting soldiering. Old-fashioned squire. One of those sensible men of substantial means who, according to Bagehot, ran the country. "Oh, he was a gentleman, quite a gentleman," wrote a woman who saw him join the expedition. "An English gentleman," wrote Scott, who saw him leave it. "Everyone," Oates partly because everyone can remember his last words. "That's made them up it is a tribute to his skill as a scriptwriter."

I have a certain fondness for "Call of Nature" as being, like The Last Place On Earth, a play on words but it has all confirmed me in my feeling that people should prepare their last words well in advance so there is no chance of some "whimper-scraper" popping something into your mouth like a thermometer or of an altogether unsatisfactory departing gargle. Whoever can think of a better exit line for Oates will receive my prestigious Scott Award. For Oates award, if they prefer a pole, Waldemar Januszczak.

While I am on shaky ground with gentlemen, I feel far more confident about reporters. In last night's episode of The Last Place On Earth a group of New Zealand reporters clustered around Scott sucking their pencils, when a door was flung open and out comes Mrs Evans, the wife of Scott's second-in-command, moving like a greyhound. Striking a graceful attitude on the stairs, she delivered herself of a powerful speech beginning, "Be captain of your marriage if you like" and ending either "Inquisitive witch" or "Invasive bitch." I cannot be sure as my ears were ringing. At this Mrs Scott appeared, being second but travelling nicely, and offered it as her considered opinion that Mrs Evans was drunk.

The reporters, clearing their throats uneasily, continued questioning Scott about the shape of his ponies. For heaven's sake, everyone knows the shape of a pony. One must assume that New Zealand journalists are either a different breed entirely like marsupials or, like Oates, definitely too drunk, well up among the handkerchiefs and socks. It is not a matter of is it a lie but is it likely.

Usually The Last Place On Earth is looking good as it always did. Martin Shaw as Scott is doing as well as can be expected and the physical magnificence of Sverre Anker Ousdal as Amundsen better. He seems though to have abandoned any attempt to speak English or, rather, does so in that Christopher Robin-goes-hoppity-hop-hop rhythm which turns everything to Scandinavian. Mrs Shaw is still getting it in the neck, a husky distinguished itself, a fiery cross appeared in the sky. It is worth watching it only because the alternative is Blott On The Landscape (BBC-2).

Blott, as the front titles and rude music attest, intended to be a seaside postcard. It is extraordinary that rational people could have worked on this serial for months without feeling a frightful sense of premonition. The same sensation that swept over Oates when he first clapped eyes on his spavined ponies. A feeling that, if you could see it written up somewhere, would be the sweetest word in the world. A passionate desire to hail a passing cab. A strong temptation to announce that you are just going outside and may be some time.

Robin Denselow reviews the rock releases

Eagle has landed

IT MAY not be the greatest lyric of the year, but at least it shows that some West Coast superstars are aware of changing times. "I saw a Dead Head sticker on a Cadillac," sings Don Henley in his evocative hit The Boys Of Summer, "and a voice inside me said 'Don't look back'."

These days, Henley's former band The Eagles seem even more dated and unfashionable than those earlier (and still running) California heroes The Grateful Dead. All credit to Henley that he's survived to notch up a sizeable hit in Britain (his second back home) and record a second solo album that shows he's not still stuck in the seventies.

Building The Perfect Beast (Asylum) is not quite up to the standard of his solo debut I Can't Stand Still, but it's a varied, intelligent set that includes his current hit and songs that range from a political rocker to a country weeper.

The anti-nuclear title track is more of an obvious political statement than the controversial Johnny Can't Read on his last set, but it shows him experimenting musically with the pounding, brassy backing and breathy backing vocals. Elsewhere he veers towards a Joni Mitchell-style mood piece on L.A. with Sunset Grill, and shows off his Texan country roots in You're Not Drinking Enough.

Jason and The Scorchers: Lost And Found (EMI America). Like Henley's former band, the Scorchers play tracks as pleasant, classy funk instrumentals, with keyboard work from the Crusaders' Joe Sample providing a familiar setting for Felder's cool, seemingly effortless playing.

the music with flat-out rock 'n' roll fervour. What makes this band special is their enthusiasm and attack, with Jason's vocals matched by Warner Hodges' excellent guitar. They are best heard live, after several pints, and recommended not just for the heavy rock treatment of country songs like I Really Don't Want To Know, but for the occasional slow, gentle and thoughtful piece like the story of a racial killing, Still Tied.

Boy Harper with Jimmy Page: Whatever Happened To 1214? (Second Sight). While Page has played the world's stadiums and earned millions, Harper has had an uneven career, playing concerts and clubs, and recording a dozen albums that ranged from the angry, gentle, and exquisite to the infuriatingly self-destructive. But at least he has survived.

Playing with Page has brought out the best, as well as the worst, in Harper, as he sings remarkably well and plays good, lightly amplified guitar over which Page adds fluid guitar lines. The songs range from ballads with lighty amplified strummed guitar backing, like 1949, a mixture of Orwell and nuclear nightmare, to Hangman, which eases from the folksy to a heavy rock riff. But just as Harper is doing really well, he deliberately blows it. The final track, which ends in a burst of stoned giggling is simply a waste of vinyl.

Wilton Felder: Secrets (MCA). This is everything one would expect from a solo outing by the Crusaders' saxophonist, but with an additional bonus. Most of the tracks are pleasant, classy funk instrumentals, with keyboard work from the Crusaders' Joe Sample providing a familiar setting for Felder's cool, seemingly effortless playing.

RONNIE SCOTT'S

John Fordham

Benny Golson

BENNY GOLSON, the veteran saxophonist who still exhibits a tone that purrs like a Rolls, is currently appearing at Ronnie Scott's with his quartet. Golson is a past master in the art of making progress by stealth and ingenuity rather than bravura and, like a best improviser, never sounds as if he's playing the same old, same old. Some jazz musicians fit the phrases into the spaces of the chord structure as if they were working on an assembly line.

Golson's tone on slow pieces is inimitable. It is, to borrow from Lewis Carroll, somewhere between a drawl and a rumble, with a kind of affectionate chuckle in the middle. By the time the band had fixed its muscles through a series of elegant, witty revelations on principles as old as the hills and reached Are You Real?, a prodigious, medium-paced swinger that Golson used to play with Art Blakey, the leader was also demonstrating his ability to gently invert most melodic and harmonic expectations. He plays breaks by spiralling down into the low register rather than the more customary agitated ascent being a notable instance is the kind of thing that sets you raising an eyebrow with pleasure. Golson's talent rarely, properly, indulges in extremes of elation—the reserve makes him at times such a breath of fresh air.

The presence of the Ronnie Scott quintet in the club this week makes for an interesting contrast with Golson's unflappable savoir faire. The group has a fondness for that loping jazz-funk of the Sixties Blue Note period and — though it is sometimes prone to rather phlegmatic and monotonous soloing — frequently demon-

strates how suitable a vehicle it is for the enduring skills of Scott himself.

Though prone to sounding as lugubrious and downbeat as his own announcements, he continues to perceive a solo as a whole, to construct it as a series of logical events and lace it with a strong flavour of blues. Such modest story-telling virtues are certainly worth defending, as long as nobody treats them as the Gospel.

WAREHOUSE

Nicholas de Jongh

Playboy Of The Western World

SYNGE's Playboy of the Western World inhabits an Ireland which seems centuries away, even though it was first seen just 78 years ago. Here are rural, withdrawn and credulous people tightly encased in an over-the-top, almost grotesque, life in this production by the Druid company from Galway in a fashion which no English troupe could manage.

From Paddy Donnelly's white-haired, grizzled old publican to the trio of dishevelled, begrimed village girls, there is a sense and sound of an impoverished, rich only in its rights of language. And the only jarring notes are struck by Maelissa Stafford's Christy Mahon, with his trim 1950s haircut and a face far too smooth for a traveller.

The design by the director Garry Hynes and the production's naturalistic foundations from which it departs only in the final rather farcical and drunken attempt to string up the arch-fantast Christy, for the crime of falsely boasting he has struck his father dead. And in its vignettes of a sleeping village awakened to curiosity by the stranger's arrival, Hynes's production is at its most vivid: the publican and his cronies disturbed by Mahon's late night arrival or the screeching bevy of girls, torn between flirtatiousness and fear, catch the right tone.

To the role of Christy Mr Stafford brings a suitably gauche and tentative manner, and downcast eyes, but he powerfully conveys the man's gradual self-confidence as he becomes successively the object of romantic dreams, sexual desire, and pugilistic furies.

His relationship with



Sean McGinley: Warehouse

Peggy Mike is conveyed as a meeting of two lonely fantasists, and is lyrical rather than passionate or erotic. And though Peggy Mike's Peggy is a self-deprecating quidly which seems just right, and her blaze of possessiveness and final outrage is in harmony with her earlier characterisation, she misses notes of desperation and final desolation.

This review appeared in later editions yesterday.

SOUTHAMPTON

Paul Lewis

Animal

ALTHOUGH the actors copulate, urinate and generally behave like animals in the latest Nuffield Theatre production there have been no howls of public protest. They get away with it because they are pretending to be animals, chimpanzees in fact and we all know what they're like.

Actually they're like us according to Tom McGrath who has re-written his Animal for its English premiere. The actors are utterly convincing as they scurry along shrieking loudly with their bums in the air and wearing what

looks significantly like babies' romper suits.

The chimps' society may be uncivilised but it is unnervingly like that found in many street gangs or boards of directors. Its virtue is that it is at one with nature and the supreme achievement of Justin Greene's production is that we too become one with this world, drawn in by music and physical action that takes its pattern from music.

But not for long. An anthropologist called Lynn (Sarah Berger) arrives. She forms a relationship with the ape she calls Blue, "the most intelligent and therefore the most sad," movingly portrayed by Raad Rawi. He sees the dangerous characteristics lurking within all apes that find their apotheosis in humans.

Inevitably the human interferences with the environment and the apes begin to change for the worse. So does the play. Lynn is joined by another human and a substantial plot. This plot, like a young ape mauling every one else, takes over.

Any kind of narrative would have shattered the previous timeless mood and made the play's point but McGrath underlines it twice by making the destruction of the apes extreme and melodramatic. The result of the moral contest between human and animal would be more effective if it seemed less rigged.

PLYMOUTH

Allan Saddler

Babes In Arms

THE well-known Rodgers and Hart songs in Babes In Arms can still delight with their wit and sophistication, and occasionally they fit in with the plot. This is the archetypal backstage musical of a group of stage-struck youngsters winning against the odds. The details are fairly inconsequential. Rodgers and Hart had some wonderful songs that just needed a showcase.

The show is still with show-stoppers and production numbers. The idea is that furious energy and conviction can dazzle an audience into senseless submission. But to project this kind of manic glee needs the earnestness of Mickey Rooney, who appeared in the film version, outpacing several experts in sticky sentimentality. Matthew Kelly sings pleasantly enough and has an engaging personality, but is a bit beyond the stage of youthful over-enthusiasm after Babes In Arms is a com-

pany show and all the cast get a good song to sing. Susan Denaker accounts for the ballad Where Or When in an effectively straightforward manner. Su Pollard gets The Lady Is A Tramp which she treats as though it had been scored for a military tattoo, but she roused the audience finally with a spirited version of Johnny One Note, which is much more her style.

Babes In Arms is more of a song parade than a show. It is unfortunate that so many classic versions of the songs by classic singers still lodge in the memory. Nicely presented with decorative hair and polish by Roger Redfern at the Theatre Royal, Plymouth.

CAMBRIDGE

Michael Grosvenor Myer

Greek Plays

A NEW translation of Greek plays directed by the translator: what could be more appropriate in the Cambridge theatre? Dominic Dromgoole, is the translator-director, Sophocles' Theban tragedies are the plays, and the performances are at the ADC Theatre.

Balance is the keynote of the production. Mr Dromgoole's translation strikes a balance between the declamatory and the over-colloquial, the acting between dignity and wilful naturalism, with occasional well-judged outbursts of rage or hysteria.

Costumes are simple and timeless. There is no make-up and the eight young players aged themselves by technique alone, everyone doubling as principals and chorus.

Sophocles, we are reminded, has not been bettered in 2,000 years as a master of dramatic climax. The heart still misses a beat at the first, fatal mention of the place where the three roads meet. Is there a better constructed play than Oedipus, a more poignant or morally significant than Antigone? Darren Tunstall's Oedipus and Philip Barton's Creon stand out in an ideally dedicated cast.

In traditional Greek fashion, the atmosphere is lightened by a comedy: a late-night knockabout up-dated adaptation of Aristophanes' Acharnians. Jokes about structuralism, Mrs Thatcher, the Guardian rub shoulders with the pious for peace. It is a fair way after Aristophanes, but elements remain and it gives a fine chance for the company to let their hair down after the rigours of the tragic vision.

DON Henley

NEW ALBUM & CASSETTE

BUILDING THE PERFECT BEAST

FEATURING THE HIT SINGLE 'THE BOYS OF SUMMER'

THE GLC PRESENTS

MIRIAM MAKEBA

THE EMPRESS OF AFRICAN SONG IN A BIRTHDAY CONCERT WITH HER ORCHESTRA

MUSICAL DIRECTOR AL SANDERS

THE ROYAL FESTIVAL HALL

MONDAY 4 MARCH 1985

FROM 7-30 PM

GLC Working for London

WILL RATE CAPPING TEAR THE ART OUT OF LONDON?

PAUL EDDINGTON FELICITY KENDAL

SIMON CAPELL

TOM STOPPARDS

JUMPERS

ANDREW SACHS PETER WOOD

REDUCED PRICE PREVIEWERS FROM 22 MARCH OFFERS 14PM-10PM THEATRE

01 836 6404 01 379 6233

Emphatically not to be missed

THE DEVILS

Barbican RSC The Pit

01 628 8795/638 8891



Miranda Richardson, right, in *Dance With A Stranger*; Clint Eastwood, left, in *City Heat*; Jessica Lange and Sam Shepard, above, in *Country*



Tim Palleine takes the floor as he reviews *Dance With A Stranger*, *City Heat*, *Country*, and the frenetic *Breakdance 2—Electric Boogaloo*



Vanessa Redgrave in *Wetherby*, joint winner of the main prize

Derek Malcolm on the results at a less than triumphant Berlin festival

Hare today

NO ONE is surprised any more when British films win festival prizes, and David Hare's *Wetherby* looked to have a favourite's chance at Berlin from the moment it was screened in a very weak competition.

What did raise some eyebrows was *Wetherby's* sharing of the Golden Bear with the *Woman And The Stranger*, an East German prisoner-of-war story of very little distinction: but then Berlin self-consciously serves both East and West, and this triangular love story was about the best of the Eastern block entrants.

The jury, headed by the veteran French star, Jean Marais, gave nothing at all to Godard for his supposedly controversial but fairly innocuous *Virgin Mary*, and then compounded the error by making Robert Benton best director for his egregiously *Places In The Heart*. Giving the Silver Bear to Hungary for Laszlo Gabor's *Flowers Of Reverie*, not in any way a noteworthy effort, seemed another mistake.

Marguerite Duras, though, got a prize for the script of her film *The Children*, which was certainly the best part of it, and there was no controversy about the best actor award for Fernando Fernan Gomez in Jaime de Arminan's *Sico*, a clever comedy about an elderly professor who offers to become a Roman-style slave to the family of a former pupil and rules everyone with a rod of iron despite his convenient cloak of humility. Jo Kennedy won the best actress award for her part in Ian Pringle's Australian entrant, *Wrong World*.

All it was not a year to remember, and it wasn't only Godard who had cause to complain — since Michel Deville, whose *Danger In Delay* was one of the most accomplished films in competition, got nothing either. This *Chabrolean* thriller was at least great fun, in marked contrast to many of the other entrants. But neither thriller nor fun films were much in evidence at the festival with juries looking desperately for significance.

The other British film in competition was *Nineteen Eightyfour*, which is almost certainly the last major production to be financed by the British Film Institute's production board owing to budget cuts. It is an honourable, accomplished first feature by Hugh Brody with Paul Schofield and Maria Schell as two veterans of life who meet in the Vienna of the late 1940s and are linked by the fact that they were both patients of Freud in their youth.

She was a lesbian, suicidal after an unrequited love affair, and he a man unable to love except without sex. The film, which places these two within the context of a troubled century, is often too ambitious for its own good and sometimes a little dull. But both Schofield and Schell give good performances and there is no doubt whatever that Brody is a director to watch for the future.

The chief fault of the film lies in its lack of passion, and its best virtue is its painstaking production design and mastery of detail. Another British film shown out of competition was *Derek Jarman's* *Love And Ruin*, which illustrates Shakespeare's *Sonnets*, spoken by Judi Dench, with

music and imagery of sometimes stunning beauty. It lasts almost 80 minutes, which is too long, but the stop-motion photography with its homoerotic overtones is superbly done. Jarman is an exceptional film-maker in his field and one now looks forward to his *Caravaggio* with some impatience.

One of the hits of the festival was undoubtedly Robert Epstein's shattering documentary, *The Times Of Harvey Milk*, which dramatically tells the story of the murder of the gay activist who became a controversial San Francisco supervisor and was then shot together with the mayor of the city. Anyone not telling this tale well ought to have been shot too, but Epstein does it marvellously.

This is the gay film of the year, but it is run pretty close by Greta Schiller and Robert Rosenbergs' *Before Stonewall*, which traces half a century of gay culture up to the moment, in 1969, when a homosexual bar in New York held out against the police for three days after accusations of constant harassment. The merit of this documentary is its humanity, tact, and the due weight it gives to the gay women's movement and the perils it too faced.

The documentaries in fact appeared a great deal stronger than most of the features, inspiring one critic to remark that this was a festival for fiction directors who simply could not direct. A bit hard perhaps, but one could see what he meant as the days progressed and even the slightest talent was seized upon as remarkable in the fiction field.

The German critics, for instance, made a great song and dance about Bobby Roth's *Heartbreakers*, the story of two Los Angeles buddies who screw each other's women and inspect their respective styles before embracing each other in the final fade-out. Actually it is great fun, like Alan Rudolph without the continental knobs on.

Joan Freeman's *Street Walkin'*, from the Roger Corman stable, was equally ambivalent, being a sympathetic but fundamentally exploitative study of young Los Angeles prostitutes which collapses in a welter of gunslinging and sentiment.

There was not much from Europe to cite, about. On the last day the Forum's surprise film turned out to be Percy Adlon's *Zuckerbrot*, which is at least not grim. This is a romantic comedy with a suitable amount of irony to temper its sentimentality, the story of a fat undertaker's attendant, well past the first flush of youth, who makes a set for a handsome young train driver, catches him and commits the affair of his life. It doesn't seem much like Adlon territory, and it doesn't look much like an Adlon film with its Fassbinder-style red and blue filters. But it's nice just the same.

Paul Bartel's *Lust In The Dust* is hardly that, being a fairly vicious skit on westerns aided by such B-movie alumni as Tab Hunter and Divine. You could call it a cross between *Eating Raoul* and something cooked up by John Waters' *Pump In The Gut*, but decidedly curlier. That's what Berlin's been like this year too.

Did she fall, or was she pushed?

THE AFFAIR, which ended 30 years ago when Ruth Ellis shot her faithless and worthless lover, led — though *Dance With A Stranger* (Plaza Screen on the Hill, 15) does not say so — to her becoming the last woman to be hanged in Britain.

Rather the film, scripted by Shelagh Delaney and directed by Mike Newell, ends with the shooting, with nothing about the subsequent trial and only a postscript to refer to Ruth's execution. This is odd since it tends to brush aside the legal and sociological implications.

A legal expert recently suggested that if the case occurred today, the defendant would, considering the extraordinary degree of provocation, have received no more than a two-year suspended sentence: and it was the public outcry over the hanging which, as much as anything, clinched the case for abolition of capital punishment.

The movie does not, of course, profess to offer a case-history or aspire to the status of drama-doc. It does, though, and maybe unwisely, lead to presuppose the audience's knowledge of the outcome, since on this is predicated the sense of fatal-

ism we feel as the one-year span of the action ticks away. Moreover, because the story is based (though one does not know how precisely) on fact, it inevitably is apt to lack a clear-cut dramatic shape.

Certainly, *Dance With A Stranger* has a distinctive surface. Miranda Richardson, as the peroxide-blondie Ruth, and Rupert Everett, as the racing driver who is her psychotically unearthing lover and nemesis, look exactly right, and their iconic resonance help to persuade us of their amour fou.

No less important, the production design of Andrew Mollo gets across a heightened aura of the mid-50s, with their "contemporary" furnishing which keeps within the bounds of realism, but suffuses the film in a muted expressionism — an effect capped by the nearly Pabst-like scene near the end of the assassination in a swirling peep-show.

This is a depressing film. The fact that one emerges with something of the feeling of a hangover is surely due not just to the quantity of alcohol we have seen being drunk, but to a sense of having awoken from bad dreams. That is the movie's achievement but also its limitation:

ultimately its characters remain figures seen in a garish social landscape rather than projections of social attitudes, and the wait in darkness which the film describes is not performed to the music of time.

City Heat (Warner, etc., 15) also transports us into a stylised past, but in a spirit of frank escapism, not to say triviality. The locale is Kansas City in 1933, a cops-and-robbers showcase for Burt Reynolds and Clint Eastwood.

Reynolds is a gumshoe, shrouded in regulation trenchcoat, perhaps because it seems to be forever pouring with rain; Eastwood represents law enforcement, and is hard-bitten enough to resemble a totem pole, perhaps because he seems to bear single-handedly the responsibility for plainclothes policing of the city. The two are forever at loggerheads, in what amounts to a superannuated variation on the "buddy" movies popular a few years ago.

It's a long, set by an early bout of furniture-smashing fisticuffs, is broad comedy. But the narrative revolves rather bafflingly around the crooked activities of Reynolds' partner, which involves a good deal of graphic mayhem, including burning alive.

Perhaps the late Robert Al-drich, whose *The Grissom Gang* travelled the same route, could have yoked together the gothic frenzy and the incoherent farce to some real purpose. Here, however, they remain separate, tedious and sometimes tasteless effects.

The film benefits from some mobile camerawork and from Rip Torn's straightened parody of a gargoyles-like mobster. But on the whole, Richard Benjamin's direction cannot disguise the air of hand-me-down commercial concoction.

The non-stop crash, bang, wallop of the soundtrack suggests that earplugs might be offered in the manner of 3D glasses. Also, said to say, the intimations of racial integration seem a bit optimistic for 50 years ago.

By contrast, *Country* (Odeon, Haymarket, PG, 15) in a present-day Mid-West farming community, taps a vein of understated naturalism. Its strength lies in a capacity — particularly in the cinema but not lately too much in evidence — to tell a story through observation of reality.

Jessica Lange (co-producer as well as star) and Sam Shepard play a couple whose struggle to make a living from

the land appears doomed by a foreclosure threat from the loan company they depend on. The husband eventually cracks under the strain and takes to the bottle, but the family group — three children plus grandpa — is held together by the fortitude of the wife, who begins to seem almost like a latterday version of Ma Joad in *The Grapes Of Wrath*.

The director, Richard Pearce, previously made the more modestly budgeted *Heartland*, also about the hardship of farming life but set some 70 years ago. There the re-creation of the background threatened to become an end in itself, but *Country*, being more contemporary, has a closer sense of engagement with its material.

David M. Walsh's cinematography has an evocative plainness in conjuring up the wintry Iowa landscape and the skeletal little town: the camera registers the surroundings of makeshift dance-hall and church without pushing them under our noses as anything colourful or quaint. Details of behaviour and of domestic activity take their place in the overall design.

There are elements of melodrama, as regards the suicide of a neighbour driven

to the end of his tether by economic difficulties. There is an unabashed sentiment, too, in the treatment of the family group, in such details as the son using his savings to buy back the treasured harness his grandfather has had to dispose of.

But the melodrama and sentiment do not seem manipulative; they serve most of the time to bring out a quality of truth. It is only at the end that there is some sense of fudging. We can believe in the husband's return to the bosom of his family but not quite in the way that the auction of their effects is called off after an emotional plea to the crowd.

This happy ending of sorts — a closing title alludes to new legislation to protect farmers' interests — does not appear as an altogether logical outcome. But the film is for the most part sympathetic and likeable.

Breakdance 2—Electric Boogaloo (Classic, Oxford St., and release, PG) does not seem to call for extended critical commentary. A sort of 1980s variation on *Babes In Arms*, it boasts dialogue that seems to be being read from cue cards and a quantity of perspiration such as to make one relieved that it is not in Smell-O-Vision.

BRIEFING

Best films

Blood Simple (release). Stylishly visualised macabre tale, making good, hard-boiled use of its Texas setting.

Amadeus (ABC, Shaftesbury Ave.). Expansive and handsomely opening out of the Shaffer play, somewhat academically directed by Milos Forman.

Borowczyk's Dr Jekyll (ICA). Weird variation on Stevenson; not everyone's cup of blood, but has some compulsive moments.

L'Amour A Mort (Berkely, Arts). Alain Resnais explores the philosophical realms of love and death; enigmatic, to say the least, but arresting.

Places In The Heart (Odeon Haymarket). Folk tale of the Depression from Robert Benton; sentimental but in an attractive way.

Richard III (Academy). Welcome revival of Olivier's best Shakespeare film; supporting cast includes Gielgud, Richardson.

Best on TV

Merry Andrew (today, BBC-2, 7 p.m.). Danny Kaye musical (1958), with pleasing patter songs and inventive choreography.

Stardust (Friday, BBC-1, 11.20). Overblown but lively sequel to last week's *That'll Be The Day*.

Mean Streets (Friday, C4, 11.20). Martin Scorsese's feverish evocation of life in New York's Little Italy. Powerful and personal almost to a fault.

The Letter (Monday, BBC-2, 8 p.m.). Suitably heightened playing from Bette Davis in a tolerably effective William Wyler version of the Maughan play.

Coogan's Bluff (Monday, BBC-1, 10.55). Clint Eastwood in Don Siegel's excitingly drawn thriller about a frontier-style lawman operating on the streets of New York.

Interiors (Tuesday, C4, 9 p.m.). Woody Allen's sole venture into straight drama (he doesn't appear himself). Chilly and self-conscious, but interesting.

Video releases

CIC's new releases include Hitchcock's *Vertigo*, Polanski's *Rosemary's Baby*, and Aitkenborough's *Oh! What A Lovely War*, not to mention *Star Trek III: The Search For Spock*.

Special interest

THREE seasons begin at the National Film Theatre this week: on the American South,



Sally Field in *Places In The Heart*

starting with *Jezebel* on Saturday; images of Wales, kicking off with *Ford's How Green My Valley* (Friday); and Japanese literary adaptations, starting with Teshigahara's *The Face Of Another* (Sunday).

James Ivory's *The Bostonians* begins a run at the Barbican Cinema tomorrow, preceded by a different one of his films each evening: tomorrow's curtain-raiser is the little seen *The 5.48*.

Among films at the Everyman, Hampstead, in the coming week are two Minnelli programmes: *The Pirate* and *Meet Me In St. Louis* on Sunday afternoon, and *Lust For Life* and *The Cobweb* on Tuesday. At the Scala Kings Cross, on Wednesday, a selection of short films by Peter Greenaway — is showing together with Chris Harker's

Sunless. The Borowczyk season at the ICA Cinematheque concludes with *The Streetwalker* and *Behind Closed Walls* (Friday to Sunday).

The Sunday matinee at the Electric Screen, Portobello Road, is *Yield To The Night* (1956), based on the then very recent Ruth Ellis case.

Edinburgh. Filmhouse screens a selection of Tex Avery cartoons until Saturday.

South Hill Park Arts Centre, Bracknell, is showing *The Company Of Wolves* (Friday-Sunday), followed by *The Natural* (Monday-Wednesday). Herzog's *Where The Green Ants Dream* plays at Tyneis Cinema until Saturday. The Film of the Book season at Croydon Arts Centre continues with the lively 1952 version of *The Pickwick Papers* (Friday and Saturday).

A British double-bill, *Local Hero* and *Loose Connections*,

is showing at the Metro, Derby, until Sunday. Takovsky's *Andrei Rublev* is at the Dukes, Lancaster, on Sunday and Monday, and the Saturday matinee at the Dukes is Carroll Ballard's admirable *The Black Stallion*.

Tim Palleine

"In my book, everyone in the film should get an award. Rarely have I seen such flawless performances... A deeply moving film."

MADEIRA HARMON—SUNDAY MIRROR

"I like 'Places in the Heart' very much. The picture is beautifully crafted, the warmth is genuine, the acting outstanding."

PHILIP FRENCH—THE OBSERVER

NOMINATED FOR
7
ACADEMY AWARDS
including
BEST PICTURE
BEST DIRECTOR
Robert Benton
BEST ACTRESS
Sally Field



SALLY FIELD
PLACES IN THE HEART

Now Showing
CLASSIC HAYMARKET

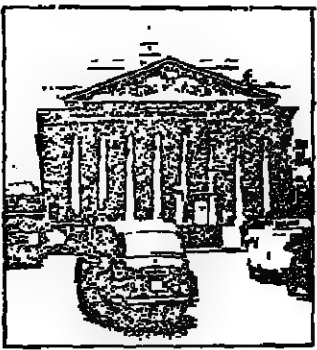
"PURE MAGIC...deliciously watchable... I LOVED IT!"
L.A. MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM
From FRIDAY
MARCH 1st
45 Minnastbridge 3.00 5.00 7.00 9.00

"Terry Gilliam's
Brazil
is one of the most stunningly imaginative films to have been produced in a long long time"
Fiona Ferguson CITY LIMITS
Arnon Milchan Presents A Terry Gilliam Film "Brazil"
Starring • Jonathan Pryce
Robert De Niro • Katherine Helmond • Ian Holm • Bob Hoskins
Michael Palin • Ian Richardson • Peter Vaughan and Kim Cattrall
Screenplay by Terry Gilliam • Tom Stoppard • Charles McKearn
Original Music Michael Kamen • Editor Julian Doyle • Director of Photography Roger Poon
Co-Producer Patrick Cameron • Produced by Arnon Milchan • Directed by Terry Gilliam
NOW SHOWING EXCLUSIVE PRESENTATION
ODEON LEICESTER SQUARE

Berlin Alexanderplatz
AT THE NFT
Part 1 Sat 2 Mar 12.30/Part 2 Sun 3 Mar 2.00
The NFT is pleased to present the first public screening since the 1981 London Film Festival of RW Fassbinder's remarkable 151 hour TV film BERLIN ALEXANDERPLATZ. Based on Alfred Döblin's novel, it presents a bleak picture of Germany in the 1930s in a series of raw, erotic and disturbing episodes. Starring Hanna Schygulla and Gunter Lamprecht.
Membership from 70p weekly.
Tickets: £16.00
£12.00 (standby)/£6.00 (standby Sunday)
Box Office: 928 3222
National Film Theatre, South Bank, Waterloo, SE1

Barbican Cinema
March 1-21
THE BOSTONIANS
Daily
The films of Ismail Merchant and James Ivory
The Five-48 March 1, 18; Heat & Dust (15) March 2, 10, 16, 21; Hush (15) March 3, 8; The Europeans (10) March 3, 9, 20; Bombay Talkies (15) March 4, Quartet (10) March 5; The Householder (10) March 6; Adventures of Brown Man/ Autobiography (10) March 7; Savages (10) March 10; The Gums (10) March 11; Courtneys of Bombay (10) March 12; Resaland (10) March 13; Shakespeare Wallah (10) March 14; The Wild Party (10) March 15; Special Event — Tribute to Jennifer Jones March 17; Jane Austen in Washington (10) March 19.
See Press for full details.
Phone 01-628 8795/638 8897

What can we learn from this most utterly chaotic day on the exchanges?



NOTEBOOK

Hamish McRae

YESTERDAY'S foreign exchange markets demonstrated two things.

The first is that concerned intervention by European central banks can, if made at the technically correct mo-

ment, have a dramatic impact on currency rates. This gives the lie to the notion that central banks are powerless to check absurdities on the foreign exchanges. Given the will and resources they can, for once (and notwithstanding our scepticism here yesterday) they did the right thing.

Secondly though, it became quite clear yesterday that the Americans have no stomach for currency intervention. Whether or not there was a modest Fed participation in the markets, there was certainly no serious attempt to support the European initiative. Even in the Federal Reserve, there seems no imperative to try and curb the rise of the dollar.

To be sure, US officials keep saying that they might intervene. This is one of those many issues where no one should pay much attention to what is said by any politician, or at least not

until there is action to back the words.

You have to try and ask why. The damage that the present level of the dollar is doing to the American economy is beyond question. But reluctance to intervene, despite an international understanding to do so, stems from more than an ideological refusal to interfere with the marketplace. There must now be sufficient fear in the Fed that the dollar will collapse, that the Fed, at least, does not want to get blamed for such a movement.

That said, does the most utterly chaotic day on the exchanges for at least a decade tell us anything more? Has the dollar turned at last?

It is possible. Certainly speculators will have been frightened by what happened. The continuing drain of the US current deficit will tend to drag the dollar

down, though this may continue to be offset by capital inflows. But it is too early to be sure that the dollar boom psychology has been broken. After all, it took considerable central bank resources to achieve that impact. They cannot do that very often. We will have to wait at least a few days to see whether the market has been sufficiently scared to start the long retreat of the dollar. Meanwhile, it will have been a useful learning experience for all.

New team

AT LAST it is becoming clear how the world's largest securities house is going to tackle the new post big bang City securities market. Until yesterday Merrill Lynch had apparently stood aloof from the frenetic courting dance of the brokers and jobbers as each presented itself to

the string of cheque-book clutched suitors.

Merrill Lynch has a father, cheque book than most, and had entered into discussions with a number of brokers, including Bann and Pittman. But in each case something went wrong. The option of rolling its own — building its own team — was arrived at pretty much for want of anything better, but in a way fits in more with Merrill Lynch's approach to its business world-wide.

While the other New York houses merged, demerged, and occasionally disappeared, Merrill Lynch steamed on in its own way. It has had its problems of course, but the problems have been of a different nature to those of the marrying sort.

Yesterday, by getting a top gilt jobber on board (see below) it signalled the clear intention to build up a primary dealership in gilts. A team will be built up.

In December Merrill appointed a head of research for equities and will go on and build up a similar team for UK and European equities, too. Up to a dozen analysts are to be recruited plus sales and distribution staff: perhaps even a team.

Were an attractive broking firm to come on the market (perhaps from a divorce) then Merrill would not rule itself out as a potential purchaser if the price and culture were deemed right.

Does the departure of a top man say anything disturbing about Barclays' efforts to weld together a unified team from the constituent bits of jobbers Wedd Durracher and brokers de Zoet and Bevan? Not really. It is inevitable that there will be defections from the new groupings. It would be absurd to expect otherwise.

What we are seeing is the first parts of a staff

reconstruction akin to the structural reconstruction which is now largely in place.

Spell it out

ONE DOES not quite expect sackcloth and ashes on the sackcloth and ashes at Johnson Matthey for all the trouble that the company has caused the rest of the City, but it was a little cheeky of the company to fuss that it was being denied information by the Bank of England about its former banking subsidiary.

After all if it hadn't have been for the bank of England rescue — which cost the Bank's reputation and resources — the rump of Johnson Matthey would no longer be in any position to protest about anything. In all probability it would no longer exist.

Where Johnson Matthey,

though, is absolutely right is to stress the general lack of information available now on the whole sorry saga. It would be extremely helpful, to put it at its mildest, to have more public information about the scale and nature of Johnson Matthey Bankers' losses. These losses in part are being underwritten by the shareholders, of other public companies, the banks which have participated in the rescue. There pated in the legal objections may well be publication of for example, the accountants' reports on the matter. But it is hard to see any objections to the publication of the report by the review committee on the rescue, now with the Chancellor. At any rate, if people (the shareholders of other institutions) are being asked to stump up money it is not unreasonable that they should be told as much about the circumstances as possible.

Bank looking for 600,000 shareholders

TSB customers to get share priority

By Peter Rodgers, City Editor

The Trustee Savings Bank group would like as many as 600,000 of its six million customers to become shareholders when the bank is launched on the Stock Exchange later this year or early next.

The TSB chairman, Sir John Read, said: "If we could get a 10 per cent response we would feel very encouraged. We will be looking for a major response from our customer base, and other private citizens to take up the balance." Customers would get priority in the share allocation.

Sir John was reporting TSB group profits of £187.1 million before tax. This compares with £104.1 million last year, although a better comparison is with the £144.9 million profit made in 1983 before a £61 million special contribution to top up the pension scheme.

On this basis the underlying profits growth at the TSB group has been only 1.5 per cent and the banking business actually showed a £10 million drop in operating profit to £115.7 million.

Mr Derek Stevens, TSB general manager for finance, said that the group would not take any special measures to boost its banking profit ahead of the flotation. "We are taking a long-term view on the development of our business. There is no point in coming out with fantastic profits in the year before the flotation if that is at the expense of future growth of the business."

The banking business has been hit by narrower interest rate margins and increased expenses reflecting extra costs including investment, involved in the reorganisation and development of the business ahead of the flotation, expected to raise about £800 million.

Sir John said that after the float the TSB would continue to concentrate on the private customer. There could be acquisitions, for example in insurance, but "we have no plans at this time."

Profits of the TSB's hire purchase operations were sharply down from £9 million to £5 million, reflecting provisions and lower lending, due

partly to the effects of the miners' strike on customers. The TSB, like Yorkshire Bank, is not pressing striking miners for repayment of instalment loans until they are earning again. The chief general manager, Mr Philip Charlton, said: "We will reschedule the debt. We have a very good experience of the miners."

The TSB results were also influenced by a drop from £22.9 million to £12.7 million in profits from selling investments. Although it is not showing rapid profit growth — except in insurance, unit trusts, and credit cards which together made over £30 million, nearly twice the year before — the TSB group has a stronger capital base than the other major banks. Loans to customers of £3.7 billion — up from £2.7 billion in 1983 — compared with £2.9 billion in 1983.

The TSB's share of the National Debt Commission, a handover from its days as an arm of national savings. It pays 9.5 per cent interest. Holdings of gilts and other investments are £2 billion.

Bank pressed for JMB details

By Margaret Pagano, City Correspondent

JOHNSON Matthey's chairman, Mr Neil Clarke, complained yesterday that the auditors appointed to carry out a full, independent inquiry into the collapse of its former banking subsidiary, JMB, with losses of at least £150 million, had been denied access to any information by the Bank of England.

Up to now, they have been unable to gain access to the books and personnel of JMB and their investigation

Vauxhall in red despite higher share of market

By David Simpson, Business Correspondent

Vauxhall Motors crashed to a £6.8 million net loss last year, the group revealed yesterday, but the deficit was dwarfed by the £82.4 million loss of its sister company, Bedford Commercial Vehicles.

Vauxhall's deeper slide into the red occurred in a year when UK sales increased significantly — although domestic production actually fell — and the company's market share, including Opel cars, jumped to 16.2 per cent.

Total sales amounted to 289,900 units, almost 20 per cent more than in 1983, while the value of turnover climbed from £1.1 billion to £1.3 billion. But profits were dented first by abnormally high marketing costs, including discounting, as competition pro-

voked a fairly savage price war in the UK for much of the year, and by strikes. The accumulated cost to Vauxhall of the metalworkers' dispute in West Germany, and the two-week strike over pay in the UK, was £15 million, a Vauxhall spokesman said.

Bedford, against the background of a further decline in the UK commercial vehicle market, also experienced greater losses, as the number of vehicles sold by the company declined from 63,268 to 47,958.

These statistics, however, reflect a sharp fall in exports, particularly to Nigeria, and disguise a 6.9 per cent improvement in new UK registrations, which pushed up Bedford's share of the British market considerably.

The company has now made

it clear that Bedford must be back in the black by 1985, and last year's results include the interest charges incurred on material investment programme which takes in £70 million on new plant and products, and £12 million on advanced engineering technology.

Bedford's other main rationalisation plans are aimed at completing, with negotiations for the sale of its die plant at Bedford to Camford Engineering — which will leave some 80 employees either to accept redundancy or be accommodated elsewhere — at an advanced stage. Redundancies among 238 workers at Luton and Dunstable have also been agreed, and some further rationalisations on the administration front. Bedford has no more jobs cuts planned for the immediate future.

GLEB aid cut by Jenkin

By Michael Smith

A fresh row is looming over government policy on local authorities following a decision by the Environment Secretary, Mr Patrick Jenkin, to approve only limited new funding for the Greater London Enterprise Board, the job creation agency set up by the doomed GLC.

Mr Jenkin has rejected GLEB's application, through the GLC, for £20 million of new funds for 1985-6 and approved only £4.3 million of new money.

The decision shocked GLEB and its board will meet later today to consider ways of persuading Mr Jenkin to change his mind.

Mr Jenkin said yesterday that the additional funds of £4.3 million were being provided to enable GLEB to discharge its contractual obligations. But he wished to keep an open mind about further long-term funding and has asked GLEB officials to provide more details about its plans.

GLEB has created more than 5,000 new jobs in London with the aid of £80 million of GLC funds in the past few years and private enterprise has also funnelled some £40 million into the organisation.

But GLEB officials are now concerned that Mr Jenkin's limited approval of additional money will still leave them short of £30 million from private sources of finance over the coming year. The new funds from the private sector are linked closely to the long-term funding of the organisation, and GLEB believe that the government's decision will threaten the organisation's plans to provide at least 5,000 new jobs in the next few years.

However, Mr Jenkin has not ruled out long-term funding of the organisation which has managed to create new jobs at a much lower cost than traditional employment aided schemes. He stressed, though, that the government wanted to ensure that the GLC's interests would be safeguarded if the GLC is abolished.

Manufacturing output drops

By Christopher Huhne, Economics Editor

Productivity in manufacturing industry fell in the last quarter of 1984 for the first time since the sharp downturn of 1979-80, the official Department of Employment Gazette showed yesterday.

The break in the seemingly inexorable rise in manufacturing productivity — or output per person — throws into doubt what has until now been a major exhibit in the ministerial claim to have wrought a "new realism" on Britain's shopfloors.

In the productivity pause continues it will make it increasingly difficult for companies to absorb earnings rises of some 7½ per cent without raising prices in line. The inflation rate is currently 5 per cent.

The sharp rise in output per person employed in manufac-

turing from an index number of 97.49 (1980=100) in the fourth quarter of 1980 to 124.5 in the third quarter of last year was a large factor allowing companies to regain lost competitiveness, boost profits, and slow down price rises.

The fall in output per person employed to 124.5 in the fourth quarter is small, but it continues it is likely to reverse the debate about whether the productivity gains since 1980 were in large part a result of closing less efficient capacity rather than improving the rest.

The decline in output per person hour in a series which takes account of overtime — is sharper with a fall in the fourth quarter of nearly 0.6 per cent.

The falls in the fourth quarter mean that the rise in output per person employed over the year was only 3.6 per cent in 1984 compared with 9.1

per cent in 1983, 3.5 per cent in 1982, and 10.2 per cent in 1981.

The miners' strike has had only a small impact on manufacturing output, whose growth nevertheless slowed down from 5.3 per cent through 1983 to 2.3 per cent through 1984. This output slowdown is one reason for the slowdown in productivity: the other is a substantial revision to the Department of Employment's estimates of the employed labour force, which show sharper growth over the last year than before.

The DoE Gazette also notes that the miners' strike continues to keep Britain's industrial relations record more than six times as bad as a year ago. Last year's trend continued into January, when 1.8 million working days were lost through strikes — 1.7 million in the coal industry. This compares with a total of 298,000 in January last year.

has therefore been restricted to the limited information available," said Mr Clarke. But Johnson Matthey would continue to press for further details.

Thomson McLintock, the auditors looking into JMB's crash and eventual sale for a nominal £1 to the Bank, have finished a preliminary report. Only when the final report is complete will shareholders in JMB be advised what action should be taken.

JMB, which will shortly announce the appointment of a new chief executive, has also appointed Cooper Lybrand as new auditors to the group in place of Arthur Young McLintock. Several new executive directors are also due to be appointed while JMB continues to review the strategy of all parts of the business.

The Bank has also commissioned its own report from accountants Price Waterhouse which has been received but not published. Mr Nigel Lawson, also appointed a review committee into the dramatic weekend rescue, which is bound to centre on the Bank's supervision role. So far the Bank is understood to have passed its copy on to the Chancellor's committee but there appears to be no hint at present that it will eventually be published.

Last night the Bank had no comment to make on Mr Clarke's complaints.

He also gave shareholders details of JMB's nine monthly results which showed a slump in pre-tax profit to £12.5 million compared with £25.5 million. Most of the shortfall is accounted for by the loss of profit contribution from JMB which in the last period provided 39.4 million. JMB's other disaster area, the US jewellery business, has been closed, and some parts sold against the loss of £4.5 million. Shares in the group firmed 7½p on market sentiment

Martin takeover imminent

By Mary Brasier

The long expected takeover of money brokers B P Martin appeared to be under way after the company called a halt to dealing in its shares pending an announcement.

Martin shares were suspended at 420p and the directors spent most of the day in a board meeting.

The German money broking group holds 45 per cent of Martin's shares

and speculation has suggested that it might buy out the remaining equity, possibly in partnership with a foreign bank.

California Bank Security Pacific is thought to be a prime candidate although Martin's name has also been linked with the Hong Kong and Shanghai Bank.

Bankers are presented from owning more than 10 per cent of a money broker by Bank of

England regulations.

If the deal currently being negotiated succeeds it will be Martin's second recent attempt to settle its future.

Later last year, the group said discussions were taking place which might lead to an offer. They involved a possible management buy-out of the company but failed in January. At yesterday's market price of 2.5p, the company was valued at around £60 million.

Tootal fights Entrad bid

By Mary Brasier

Tootal has hit back at the £124 million bid from Australian group Entrad with a forecast of higher profits, progressive dividend increases and the promise of further improvements in the once battered textile group's businesses.

Tootal chairman Mr Alan Wagstaff in a 15 page document rejecting the offer attacks Entrad, questioning its financial position, its corporate structure and its ability to pay for Tootal.

Mr Wagstaff is forecasting profits of £22.5 million from Tootal for the current year to January (they were £17.2 million last year). "The Tootal

group is now in a far more healthy state than ever before. With strengthened management and improving business, Tootal's better profits and cash flow are enabling us to finance substantial investment and a progressive dividend policy," he says.

Shareholders are promised a 24 per cent higher payout of 3.1p this year.

The document goes on to say that Tootal is now pulling out of the recession and that benefits from the rationalisation programme are starting to flow through to earnings. However the 1984 figures will still contain a £26 million item for rationalisation costs. Most of

that comes from restructuring the American Thread Company. The document does not elaborate on how Tootal has earned its forecast £22.5 million profit, apart from saying that 60 per cent of the estimated £495 million sales came from overseas.

Tootal group is now very much less dependent on the UK textile cycle. Since 1980/81 £75 million of unprofitable turnover has been discarded and profit per employee has increased dramatically to around £1,500. Entrad's offer, Mr Wagstaff says, is an attempt to grab Tootal on the cheap when the costs have been incurred and the pay off is just beginning," says the chairman.

Merrill's gilts move

By Margaret Pagano

Merrill Lynch, the world's largest stockbroker, confirmed yesterday that it hopes to become a significant player in the UK gilt market when it revealed that Mr John Hutchinson, partner in charge of the London City operations, will be managing director of Merrill Lynch Europe's gilt sales and trading activities.

Last September Mr Hutchinson abruptly left Wedd Durracher, now part of the enlarged Barclays Bank, Wedd and de Zoete, financial services group, where he was senior gilt partner, over reputed differences of opinion over policy. A salary of £100,000 plus commission is likely.

After several approaches Mr Hutchinson, who has known MLE's chairman, Mr Don Roth, for many years, finally decided to join it because of its "expertise worldwide in securities trading and unmatched distribution." Mr Roth said: "We can think of someone who could provide us with greater expertise in the gilt area."

Cenargo 'dropped' as Falmouth bidder

By a Correspondent

The London-based shipping company, Cenargo Holdings, has apparently been dropped as a potential bidder to take over the Falmouth shipyard in Cornwall.

The profit-making yard has been the subject of a protracted privatisation deal due to have been completed last November. The merchant bank Grenfell's managing director, Mr Michael Hendry, visited Falmouth and was holding talks with national union officials. He was not available for comment yesterday.

The Confederation of Shipbuilding and Engineering Unions, Labour MPs and Falmouth's Conservative MP Mr David Mudd, have all expressed concern at Morgan Grenfell's apparently sudden change of heart.

The Bellway/A & P Appleford consortium is thought to have submitted a late but large bid for the yard.

HK move to balance the books

By David Simpson

The Hong Kong administration has decided that balancing its books remains its overriding priority in its first budget since agreement was reached between China and Britain last autumn over the colony's future.

Reporting a booming economy the Financial Secretary, Sir John Bremridge, made no reference to the Chinese settlement other than to predict even greater growth in trading links between the two regions.

In 1985/86, he said, Hong Kong would have a budget deficit of HK\$1.2 billion, compared with HK\$3.8 billion last year, and the record HK\$4.5 billion in 1983/84 when the colony's future was shattered and prices and government revenues. Next year, Sir John plans to eliminate the deficit altogether.

Government capital spending, particularly on major construction projects, is to remain under the tight rein imposed last year, but spending on services, including education, social welfare and in particular, health, are to be pushed up sharply.

Inflation last year fell to 8.1 per cent, he reported, and this year is expected to be reduced further to 5.5 per cent.

But while inflation was coming down, output was rising and the domestic product jumped to 9.6 per cent. In the new fiscal year growth was expected to be at a lower 7 per cent rate, partly reflecting the slow-down in the US economy which remains Hong Kong's largest export market.

Australia opens door to foreign banks

By Peter Rodgers

The Australian Government has opened its doors to 16 foreign commercial banks including four from Britain, but it gave a rebuff to the Midland, which was keen to gain entry.

Barclays and NatWest have been awarded provisional licences to operate as full commercial banks in Australia, and so has Lloyds through its wholly owned subsidiary National Bank of New Zealand. Standard Chartered Bank has been given provisional licence to operate a joint venture bank with Australian interests. All the banks are believed to be promising to inject Australian equity into their ventures in due course.

The odd bank out among the major British banks was Midland, which was ignored in favour of NatWest. Midland said: "We regret we were not awarded a licence, but the bank pointed out that it already had a provisional licence for a merchant banking and foreign exchange licence in Australia. It would con-

centrate on developing its Australian securities, retail finance and travel businesses, which already covered a wide spread. Barclays, Lloyds, and Standard Chartered were tipped to get licences because of their large Pacific basin interests.

NatWest may have impressed the Australians by promising to raise the A\$110 million capital of its finance company to A\$150 million almost immediately, rising to A\$250 million over five years. NatWest's international general manager, Mr Ron Bennie, also said staff would be raised from 700 to 1500 over the period.

Australian commercial banking has been closed to outsiders since well before the Second World War, and the 16 provisional licences — which have still to be negotiated in detail — are about twice as many as expected a few weeks ago, Mr Bennie said. This has allowed a substantial increase in the number of British banks. Altogether 42 banks applied.

Satellite orders set for UK firms

By Michael Smith, Industrial Editor

Prestigious satellite building contracts worth around £500 million are likely to be awarded next week, with British firms taking a leading role in whichever international consortium is successful.

GEC's offshoot, Marconi, and British Aerospace are leading rival consortia bidding for the satellite orders from Immarisat, the international marine communications organisation.

Representatives from 22 of Immarisat's 43 member nations are meeting in London over the next few days and are expected to award the contracts early next week.

Marconi has teamed up with Ford Aerospace of the US and Aerospatiale of France to rival the bid from British Aerospace in partnership with Hughes Aircraft of America and Satcom International of France.

The contract will ultimately be worth around £500 million and will provide valuable work at Marconi in Portsmouth or BAE's dynamics operation at Stevenage.

Immarisat will initially buy or lease up to four communications satellites from the BAE or Marconi-led consortium and take out an option to acquire up to a maximum of nine.

However, the international organisation has still not decided whether to purchase the new satellites outright or arrange a leasing deal. Discussion over the next few days will centre largely on how best to finance the huge satellite expansion programme.

Britain is the second largest shareholder in the Immarisat group with 14.6 per cent, more than double the 7 per cent stake held by Russia and

Japan but less than half the 30 per cent held by America.

Each of the new satellites will have a capacity equivalent to a minimum of 185 two-way voice circuits, several times that of the satellites currently in operation for Immarisat members.

The new satellites will also give Immarisat a substantial increase in communications capacity and make it possible for the organisation to extend its operations beyond its traditional field of providing communications for shipping and offshore interests.

Europe's computer plan

From Peter Splinks in Amsterdam

Six big European information technology manufacturers — Bell, ICL, Nixdorf, Olivetti, Philips and Siemens — have formed an "open group" to standardise interfaces between software computer systems operating under the Unix trademark of A. T. and T. Bell Laboratories.

The group's strategy team, headed by Britain's Ken Hopkins of ICL, will aim to improve compatibility between such software facilities as computer languages, compilers, work stations, and database management.

Mr Bart Nijhuis, head of product strategies at Philips Data Systems in the Netherlands, says the group is not siding with A. T. and T. in order to rival the strong competition from IBM, which currently leads the information technology field.

"We have supported A. T. and T. as they were the originators of Unix and because there is no coherent effort in Europe, as there is in the US, to get companies to standardise facilities and write software for particular interfaces — although that is what sells machines."

The general intention is to make application software readily interchangeable between different makes of computer. This should cut users' costs, while increasing the size and availability of software libraries.

Another two European companies, one British, have six of which are members of the Round Table of European Information Technology Companies. Together they are counted for £6.5 billion, or 18.5 per cent, of total European data processing expenditure in 1983.

NEWS IN BRIEF

THE Ziff family which controls Stylo shoes secured its bid on the company yesterday by buying an 18 per cent share stake from the Kuwaiti Investment Office. Earlier this month Mr Arnold Ziff fought off a tender offer from British Land and used his other company, Town Centre Securities, to buy Stylo shares. Yesterday Stylo shares jumped 12p to 188p.

TREASURY ministers have received more than 2,000 representations against the imposition of VAT on books, newspapers, periodicals and newspaper advertising. The Government said yesterday.

THE Government and paint manufacturers have reached agreements on phasing out lead driers in gloss paint from the beginning of next year.

NEW construction orders were 4 per cent higher in 1984 than the previous year, according to figures from the Department of the Environment.

THE growing dispute over the rapid import of petrochemicals and plastics from the Middle East will dominate trade talks which reopen today between the EEC and the Gulf Arab states.

THE EEC is resisting pressure to ease tariffs on the vast quantities of products like methanol and polyethylene which the Saudis and other oil and gas producing states have begun to export from huge desert installations.

BANKS' Hovis McDougall has invested £10 million at its long-established flour mill at Abchurch Lane, Manchester, to almost double capacity and make it the most technically advanced flour mill in the UK.



Izabella Barber of Merrill Lynch and (right) the dealing room of Godsell, Astley & Pearce. Pictures by E. Hamilton-West

The dollar's fall caused mayhem in the markets.
Margareta Pagano witnessed the harrowing scenes

Demented dealing

IT WAS total chaos—like a scene from mission control during a disaster in outer space. Screaming, sweaty dealers packed into a tiny capsule cramped around a circular dealing desk, each deafening the other. Words were indistinguishable, and probably unprintable. Screams of "dollarmark 50 to 60" blasted through the din to cut the smoke. Others bawled down to Moscow on the open-ended telephone—10 each. Billions of dollars were sold, bought, matched, bid for, quoted and offered. "They're in," shouted one—another screamed out, "it's moving again. Two penguins off. You can't do that." Coke cans, half-eaten sandwiches and hamburger papers littered the desks, where pens moved across paper at 90 miles an hour fixing the deals. It was bedlam, a madhouse. It was 2 p.m. London time. Just five minutes had passed but it seemed like eternity. And it was also

four hours after the real panic—when the cacophony started after the dollar, appeared at last to have begun its descent from the cliff tops down somewhere close to sanity. There was a lull. Head dealer Roger Mahoney, still screaming into the phone, said they had called the ambulances but none had appeared. Mouth-to-mouth resuscitation had been the order of the day. He started earlier than usual yesterday morning at about 7 o'clock. His office—the spot dollar-mark trading room at Godsell, Astley & Pearce, the foreign exchange subsidiary of money brokers Esco International high up in the sky at Cannon Street. The dollar-mark rate was then 3.43.

"It was all there—ready. The dollar had come off in late New York trading and there was no sign of any about-turn in very jumpy, thin markets. People were nervous about buying dollars at those levels and there were a lot of them around with big profits," Volcker, he said, or rather bellowed. "He did it." He quietened down. He was surrounded by orange cans. Pop around to the pub, yes, on a normal day but no one had been out of the office all week. Nor, it seems, had any foreign exchange dealer in the City had time to take any more than a quick gasp of oxygen. "Volcker," he repeated. "He must have been the main reason. The psychology of it all was here this morning and the central banks charged in together in such a way that there was no turning. We have never seen anything like it. The French, Bundesbank, Swiss, even the Italians, the Czechs, the Hungarians—who don't often—and the Russians were all big sellers."

Ray Cooper, head dealer of the Forex desk at the US Merrill Lynch International Bank, was just beginning to calm down. He woke up at 5.45 a.m. to catch the dollar-mark rate on his portable Reuters screen at DM3.43. By the time he left Berkeley to be at his desk—at 7.30 a.m.—it had moved up to DM3.45.

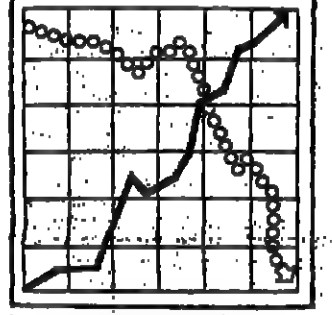
46—big spreads by any standards. The spreads were just so big. We knew there was something in the air and expected something after Tuesday's dollar slide. But I must admit we never expected anything like this. By 10 o'clock it was a madhouse and it just snowballed once all the central banks had moved in. "It had to be them. I have never seen movements—a 6 per cent fall by the dollar against the mark in about half an hour—the 3.34 level and then again 3.28—probably 10 years," said Mr Cooper.

Well over \$4 billion was turned over in MLIV's swish dealing room through heavy corporate and inter-bank business in the spot market. The dealers, Mr Cooper admitted, had positioned themselves rather well in the market. "I won't say how well, but it was quite a good day."

At 40 Ray Cooper, dealing for 16 years, is living proof that you don't have to burn out in your thirties. He admits that he may be living on borrowed time but subscribes to the view that the experience of handling jumpy, volatile markets is as important as the speed of youth. He, too, was reluctant to commit himself to the dollar's movements over the next months, even days. Back at Cannon Street, in Midland Bank's treasury foreign exchange room, the atmosphere appeared to be more subdued, but this may have been more to do with shell-shock than a quieter way of doing business.

The manager of the Forex money markets, David Joubin, was still trembling at gone midday and screwing up a small ball of paper. At that time the dollar was sliding like an eel and the pound and mark were changing so fast that when you blinked at the screens the rates changed by several points—not even "pips." But Mr Joubin was also absolutely precise and analytical about the day's events so far, despite the lack of lunch. "It all started in the Far East early this morning with the pound at \$1.06. It was soon down to \$1.04 and the spread in London was \$1.045—50. Then the acceleration started and all hell broke loose. There was very little dealing. We realised that it just wasn't heavy corporate sell orders but there had to be somebody there. By 10.24 we had confirmation that the Bundesbank had been in. Within minutes we realised they were all in the market. The bottom right hand button of the Bank of England's line—was also flashing."

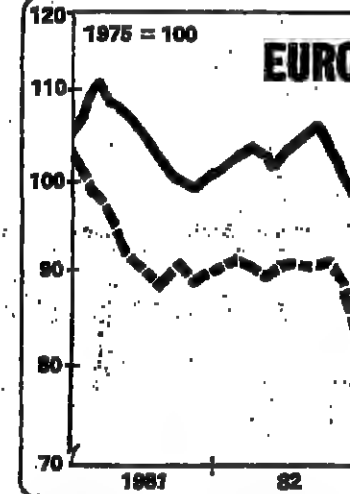
At the mid-term, the problem is how to push growth nearer to '88



ECONOMICS
Christopher Huhne

ONE of the central questions which the Chancellor will be attempting to answer, reaching his budget judgment is whether a tight budget or a looser budget will help to support the pound in the event that yesterday's dollar fall is not sustained. It is this consideration which will largely determine how much Mr Nigel Lawson "hands out" on March 19. For the longer term, there are certainly other ways in which Mr Lawson can get himself out of this hock—or similar ones, remembering the fall of sterling against all other currencies in January. As I argue later, joining EMS would not in itself be a sufficient condition for stabilising sterling, though it may well be a necessary condition for the other things which could.

President Reagan's press conference last week so brutally demonstrated. By pushing interest rates up in real terms to levels not seen since 1922, Mr Lawson has nevertheless shown his willingness to pull at least one of those levers. The Government has been unhappy enough about the dollar's strength, but what it cannot stomach is a free fall of the pound against all other currencies. Base rates at 14 per cent have stabilised the pound against the European currencies. Indeed, sterling is about 2 per cent up against the other EEC currencies compared with its average level through January. But the Chancellor has not been prepared to leave it at that. He has also repeatedly said that the pound's sharp fall against everything was in part attributable to fears about the course of government policy, and he has hinted that the events of January—what must have looked like an abyss from Treasury chambers—require a fresh and cautious approach at his budget arithmetic.



The only problem is that the Treasury's computer model in fact implies rather than the opposite, as the interesting companion of the prophecies of the various computer models from the Warwick Macro-Economic Modelling Bureau shows. Models of the UK economy, edited by Ken Wallis (OUP).

Higher taxes or lower public spending still give the expected Keynesian result of depressing the economy—just. The reason why the effect is only marginal is that the cut in government borrowing (within a given money supply target) helps to reduce interest rates, which makes the pound less attractive. So tough budgets cause sterling to fall, which the Treasury does not want. Similarly, 'easy' budgets with more tax cuts cause the exchange rate to rise, which dampens the normal Keynesian effects of more demand by making the trading sector less competitive. It thus "crowds out" private sector spending, though not totally. (A 5 per cent income tax cut raises GDP by only 0.1 per cent after three years.) These particular properties of the model were usefully useful in showing backbenchers and others who insisted on playing with it that a fiscal boost would not work because the Keynesian increase in domestic activity is rapidly offset by the rising pound.

At the time, it must have seemed like useful propaganda: it will not necessarily inform the Chancellor's judgement. After all, the Treasury has not spent so much mental energy in devising ways of bending its borrowing targets with asset sales and so forth if it really believed that fiscal policy was so powerless. A revised Treasury view is that a fiscal boost does increase domestic demand, the exchange rate, but only if the financial markets believe the Chancellor when he tells them that he will stick to a pre-announced monetary target. If they do not, they will take the relaxation as a signal that monetary growth will be more lax, and that the exchange rate will fall.

The truth, though, as I have argued before, is that there is no satisfactory general theory of exchange rates which is any use for predicting short-term movements. The Chancellor will be as well aware of that as anyone, which is probably why he is unlikely to take a deep plunge either side of his borrowing target of 27 billion the next year. At least that has the merit of already being market knowledge—and possibly discounted.

The present or even a slightly reduced target for borrowing should still give him some room for tax cuts although the impact of the government's budgetary policy will be mildly contractionary because he is paying for them out of a planned cut in public spending as a share of national income. The sort of toughest budget should strengthen the pound partly through the conventional route of cutting demand, imports and the trade deficit and partly through confidence effects. But let's have no nonsense about how it will boost jobs as well, because it won't. The defence

went once again up to the Chancellor and the Prime Minister has decided to stick with the present line: "We are still keeping the matter under active review." The arguments against, however, look pretty feeble. The main one, accompanied by much hand-wringing, is that the pound's participation would make life very difficult for our poor European partners because it is still buffeted by oil price movements and it would make the system more than just a German mark bloc. Since the said European partners do not seem to worry, this unusual rash of Treasury altruism must be taken as a reasonable excuse for something else: it would give the Bank of England another lever on policy which the Treasury's end of town would rather not see. This is a shame. The very demonstration effect of announcing that the pound was to participate fully would probably make the parity against the other Europeans easier to hold. What it would do, of course, is anything about the strength of the dollar. The Europeans ever more pressing need the dollar policy they have intermittently talked about ever since the EMS foundation in 1978, but which would be a lot easier to implement with full British membership. The fact that an eccentric B movie actor in Washington will have nothing of it should be neither here nor there. At last European finance ministers have shown that they believe what they have been saying about the over-valued dollar. They have put their money where their mouths are, used their reserves to sell dollars. The dollar may have bounce in it yet. More intervention may take place, and if necessary the Europeans should borrow to pay for it. If the dollar keeps falling Europe's central banks will be picking up currency gains all the way to their Riviera holidays. Then, of course, they would face the problem of some currencies rising against the dollar faster than others, and thereby creating strains within the EMS. But that, by present standards, would be a luxury.

Revolving Budget Account Rate Changes

Williams & Glyn's Bank announces that with effect from 4th March 1985 the rate of interest charged on overdrawn balances will be increased from 19% to 23% per annum, and the rate of interest paid on credit balances will be increased from 7.5% to 11% per annum.

Williams & Glyn's Bank plc
A member of The Royal Bank of Scotland Group plc.

Papua New Guinea calls a halt to the rush for gold

EARLY this month the government of Papua New Guinea announced that it was closing down the largest mining project in the Southern Hemisphere, less than 12 months after the mine had started gold production. This decision has sent shivers down the spines of financiers as they wonder what will happen to the \$960 million (\$870 million) invested in the Ok Tedi Mine. The mine closes today following an unresolved dispute between the government, which has a 20 per cent stake in the venture, and its commercial partners, Australia's Broken Hill Proprietary, Amoco Minerals (a subsidiary of Standard Oil of Indiana) and a group of West German companies. Talks have failed to allow the government's fears that its partners intend to recover only the high grade gold ores that cap Mount Fubilan, and to abandon their agreement to mine the underlying copper deposits. These fears stem from the failure of the Ok Tedi Mining Company to complete a tailings dam to minimise the effects of the disposal of mining wastes on the region's river system; the belief that the company is dragging its feet over the establishment of a 50 megawatt hydropower scheme to service the project; and the postponement of plans to develop a copper ore processing plant. Offers by the government of a two-year breathing-space on these infrastructural investments, and to increase its own contributions, have not produced the long-term commitment to the project for which the authorities have been looking. The 1980 agreement envisaged a three-stage development plan for the mine that would yield \$10 billion (\$9.1 billion) of gold and copper (at 1980 prices) over 25 years. The first stage, 1984 to 1986, involved the mining of the gold capping ores. During the second stage, from 1986 to 1989, both gold and copper would be produced. By 1990 the gold ores would be exhausted and only copper would be removed. The government now believes that its partners intend to abandon the project as soon as the first stage is completed. The project has been dogged by controversy since its inception. The original deposits were discovered by Kennecott, which attempted to negotiate a tough deal in the mid-1970s. But the government outmanoeuvred Kennecott and in 1976 a consortium, led by Broken Hill Proprietary, took over. It was a further five years, however, before an agreement was reached. Many of the problems related to the project's location in one of the world's most inhospitable regions. The mine site is set in rugged mountains in the remote Western Province. It is more than 800 kilometres by river from the coast, and most of the intervening terrain is lowland swampland. The implications of the closure are only just beginning to be felt. Bankers are reappraising their loans, and multinational companies are wondering about how they should react to this tiny state that is prepared to question their integrity over contractual obligations. In Port Moresby, the capital advisers to the Prime Minister, Michael Somare, are hastily organizing a campaign to persuade foreign companies that Papua New Guinea remains a good country in which to invest. Most confused of all, perhaps, are the 20,000 Min people who inhabit the remote Stane Mountain area. In the last five years they have been subjected to the trauma of moving from the Stane area to the space age, and have been encouraged to join the cash economy and to establish businesses to supply the mine. If the government cannot find alternative mining partners, they will be left to return to the Stone Age.

David Hulme

This advertisement is issued in compliance with the requirements of the Council of The Stock Exchange.

The Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company

(Liability limited by Royal Charter, Registered in England No. Z 73)

The Council of The Stock Exchange has granted permission for the following securities of The Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company to be admitted to the Official List:—

- (i) £102,058,675 nominal of Deferred Stock;
- (ii) £56,781,778 nominal of 6.3 per cent (net) Convertible Redeemable Preferred Stock; and
- (iii) warrants carrying the right to subscribe for £470,588 nominal of Deferred Stock.

Particulars of the above securities, which are being issued in connection with the merger with Sterling Guarantee Trust PLC, are available in the statistical services of Exel Statistical Services Limited. Copies of the Listing Particulars dated 1st February, 1985 may be obtained from the Company Announcements Office, The Stock Exchange, Throgmorton Street, London EC2, for 2 business days from the date of this notice and, during normal business hours on any weekday (Saturdays excepted), for 14 days from the date of this notice from:—

The Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company, 79 Pall Mall, London SW1

Morgan Grenfell & Co. Limited, New Issue Department, 21 Austin Friars, London EC2.

The Royal Bank of Scotland plc, 24 Lombard Street, London EC3.

The Royal Bank of Scotland plc, 34 Fettes Row, Edinburgh.

28th February, 1985.

Computeracy will not solve all your problems, but it will help

It all sounds depressingly familiar. Just as industry allegedly makes its long-awaited emergence out of the recession, the education system cannot meet the demand placed on it. Employment prospects for graduates are better than they have been for a long time, particularly in the context of unemployment in general being still on the increase. But the need for caution and flexibility is also greater than ever before.

— — — — —

current
into ra
9 30 The Lh

10 6 News; Medicine row.
10 30 Morning Story: Pride Comes
Before a Fall, by Donald Ban-
croft.
10 45 An Act of Worship.
11 0 News; Analysis: The Second
Spanish Armada. The likely
impact on Britain of Spain's entry
into the EEC.
11 45 Curious Corners. Odd houses; 4
Edgar Tower, part of the arch-
gateway to Worcester Cathedral.
12 0 News; You and Yours.
12 27 Just a Minute. Pointless panel

1 8 The World at One: News.
1 40 The Archers.

3 9 News, Afternoon Play. The Flow-
ers of Eden, comedy by R. E. T.

4 6 News; Enquire Within.
4 10 Bookshelf: new biography of Sol-
zhenitsyn.
4 40 Story Time: Old Glory, by
Jonathan Rabon (9).
7 2 Big News Magazine.

6 0 The Six O'Clock News
6 30 My Word! Verbose quiz
7 0 News; The Archers
7 20 Any Answers?

7 48 International Assignment.
3 19 Pride of Place: Ardnamurchan.
Lament for the disintegration of a
Highland fishing community.
3 49 Profile.
9 9 Does He Take Sugar? Magazine-
for the disabled.
3 38 Glyn Worsnip in the Archives.
9 45 Kaleidoscope. Arts magazine.
1 15 A Book at Bedtime: The End of

10 30 The World Tonight
11 15 The Financial World Tonight
11 30 Today in Parliament
12 0 News; weather; shipping

1 55 pm Listening Corner. 2 5-3
Schools. 11 Study on 4. 11 30-12
Open University 12 30-1 10 am Schools

Night-time Broadcasting

Wales: (C40m): 4. 2 am As Radio 2. 6. 10
Farming Today. 4. 2 am Daloni Roberts. 11. 30
Maureen Starmer. 12. 30 am The Big Breakfast.
Lunch. 1. 40 Catchphrase 1. 1. 45 Frank
Hennesse. 3. 30 Painting the Clouds. 4. 6
Cyfwrdd. 4. 30 Cymru. 4. 30 As
Cyfwrdd. 4. 30 Catchphrase 2. 7. 30 As Radio
4. 9. 45 Rockpile. 11. 24. 8 am As
Radio 2.

Cymru (VHF): 5. 55 am Weather. Gweler
Phobol. 9. 25 Bello Bobo. 9. 30 Bello
Phobol. 9. 45 Llaith. 10. 25 Wyddoch

Dwyddiol. 12 27 pm Sgwpsbysys, 1 50 Af
 Yr Awr. 1 20 Canllaw. 1 50 0 Glawr 1
 Glawr. 2 0 Ysgolion. 3 20 Intermezzo.
 4 0 Gweler Radio 4. 5 0 Post Prynhawn.
 6 0 Gweler Wales. 9 45 Tr Newydd.
 10 15 Newyddion. 10 20 Tr Deg Wyth
 Deg. 11 30 Close. As Radio 4 YHF.

Scotland (370m): 6 0 am As Radio 4.
 6 10 Farming News. 8 30 Good Morning

Gregor's Gatherings. 12. 0 News. 18. 0
More. 12. 50 pm Luncumeil Report. 1. 0
1. 0 As Radio 4. 1. 45 Options. 2. 3 Taking
Issue with Colin Bell. 3. 5 The Art Sutter
Show. 5. 0 Good Evening Scotland. 6. 0
News. Make Minor Music. 6. 35 Eastern
Echoes. 7. 2 Farming News. 7. 20 The Real
Blend. 8. 2 Travelling Folk. 10. 0 News.
Ian Donaldson. 12. 0 Close As Radio 4.

World Service

BBC World Service can be received in Western Europe on medium wave 648kHz (463m) at the following times GMT:

Twenty-Four Hours, 7 30 Short Radio
Reflections, 15 International Soccer
Special, 5 30 John Peel, 9 News, 9
British Press Review, 9 15 The World
This Week, 15 20 News, 9 10 Local
Ahead, 5 45 Monitor, 10 5 News; Handel
and the Oratorio, 10 30 Two Cheers for
February, 11 15 News, 11 20 News about
the World, 11 15 Local, 11 25
Week in Wales, 12 5 noon Radio New-
sweek, 12 15 pm Top Twenty, 12 45 Sports
News, 12 50 News, 12 55 News
Hours, 30 Network UK, 1 45 Sabbath
and Sunstones, 2 8 Outlook, 2 45 Out
on the Floor, 3 8 Radio Newswave, 3 15 The

[illegible]

at 8:30; SHORTS, 1957.
seats bookable.

[illegible][illegible][illegible]

